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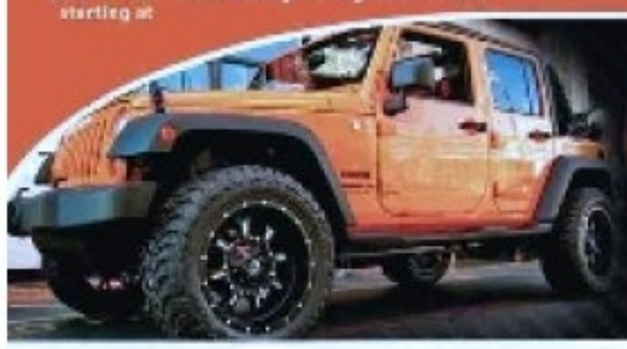

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'EVERYTHING GONE'

Eyewitness accounts from inside the inferno

Tim Querengesser
Metro | Edmonton
IN FORT MCMURRAY

Five firefighters talk to Metro about the harrowing scenes inside Fort Mac: 'And they're sending us back in'

INSIDE
- CITIZEN ARMY
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metro NEWS

FORT MCMURRAY WILDFIRE

Weekend, May 6-8, 2016

Wildfire threatens oilsands production

Oilsands executives fear the fire could create gaps in northern Alberta's power grid, leading to more shutdowns of crude production

Mike Fieldhouse and Tamara Soltykevych were just some of the many regular citizens compelled to help victims of the Fort McMurray wildfire trapped along Highway 63. KEVIN TUONG/FOR METRO

Citizen army wants to help

ROADBLOCKS

Volunteers being stopped on approach to Fort McMurray

Tim Querengesser
IN FORT MCMURRAY

Over and over they continued to arrive.

But it's not only officials who want to help the tens of thousands of evacuees — it's regular people.

Along Highway 63, where abandoned cars still line the ditches, a citizen army of helpers compelled to do something are giving people what they can.

Mike Boyer came from Edmonton on a whim.

"It's hard to sit at home and watch the news and watch Facebook and see all these people struggling sitting behind a computer," Boyer said, with piles of bottled water filling the back of his SUV.

"I went straight to Costco and bought a thousand bucks in water and hit the road."

The police blockade of Fort McMurray hasn't stopped many people from arriving in the town wanting to offer something to the 20,000 trapped at an oilsands camp north of the city.

All around them is a blaze that has grown to an almost unfathomable 85,000 hectares, sending the loved ones of those trapped into a near panic.

And if Wednesday was the day of the monster fire cloud, Thursday was the day of help arriving — from Canadian Task Force Two to endless convoys of police and fire vehicles from across the province.

Some came so far only to be stopped at the edge of the city, and those people made their frustration clear.

"Why do you have the road blocked if you have volunteers lined up for miles?" asked Rob Davidson at the check stop.

Davidson drove more than eight hours from his home in Calgary, his truck packed with gasoline, diesel, diapers and toilet paper.

"There's people down there waiting (to help), there's people over here waiting, and yet we can't get through," he said. "Here we are on Day 11 (of the fire) and we finally got the (Canadian Task Force Two) disaster relief. It's very unorganized."

> I went straight to Costco and bought a thousand bucks of water and hit the road. Mike Boyer

Soon after Metro spoke with Davidson, the southern edge of the fire that had closed access to Fort McMurray advanced and all people were told to evacuate south.

Tim Querengesser is the managing editor of Metro Edmonton. He has written about Fort McMurray for various publications and has covered western and northern Canada since 2008.

Called back to the flames

WANDERING RIVER

Firefighters speak of scenes inside Fort McMurray

Tim Querengesser
Metro | Edmonton

Outside the A&W in Wandering River — the only place within 250 kilometres of isolated Fort McMurray that you can still buy a hot meal — a crew of five firefighters scarfed down french fries Thursday before jumping back into fighting the flames.

The crew, part of Alberta Wildfire forces, have been fighting the blaze within Fort McMurray for the past five days. But on Wednesday night, as the wildfire grew and began pouncing upon the city's airport, even they were forced to evacuate.

On Thursday, they were heading back in.

"We were like going to bed, trying to go to sleep, and we got evacuated from there, to Boyle (a town 300 kilometres south of Fort McMurray)," said one of the firefighters, a young man we will not name as he was not authorized to speak to media.

"It's just mayhem, it's crazy," he said. "They finally got a plan together so they're sending us back in today. We're going to the airport right now, actually, and all the other crews are going to designated sites."

Firefighters Cory, Cole, Tarren, Charles and Jason took a minute Thursday to refuel in Wandering River before heading back to fight the wildfire that threatening parts of Fort McMurray. They declined to offer their last names as they were not authorized to speak to media. KEVIN TUONG/FOR METRO

The firefighter, wearing a yellow suit darkened with ash, said he's felt afraid and on edge throughout the fight, as the flames are intense. He said he's been drinking 20 bottles of water per day, just to deal with the heat.

> It's mayhem. Everything — houses, everything, gone.
> Firefighter

And he said he's seen this all before — he fought the Slave Lake fire, too.

For that reason, his thoughts on Fort McMurray are even more poignant.

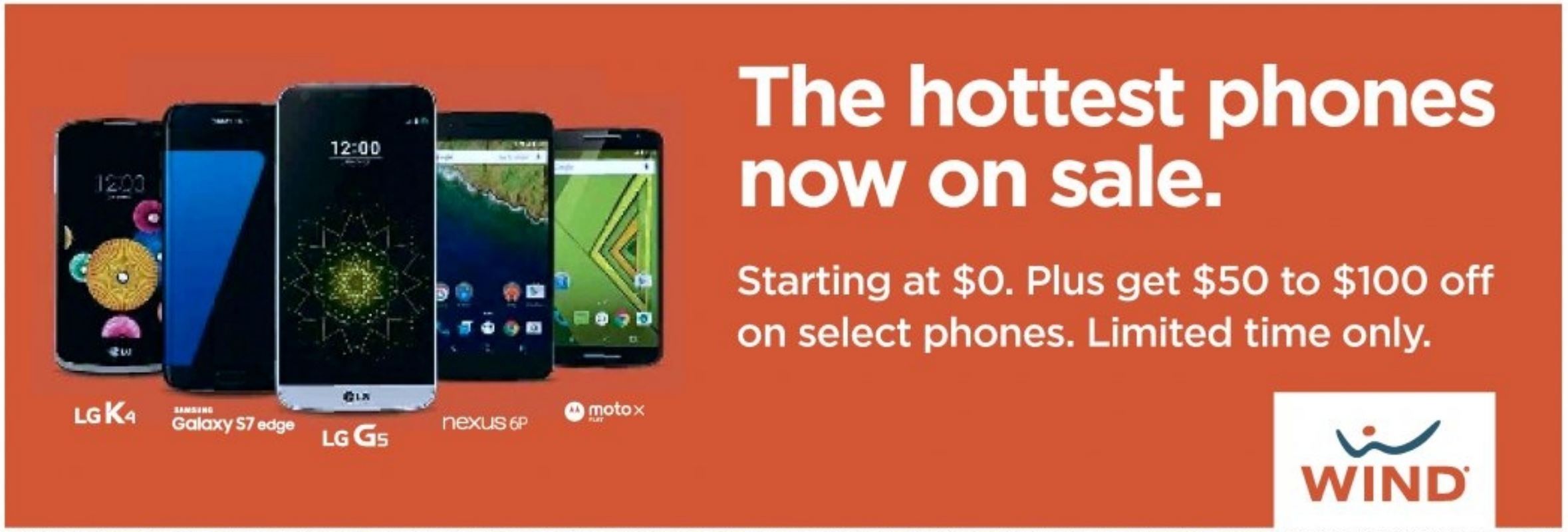
"It's just gone man," he said.

"It's mayhem. Everything — houses, everything, gone. Walmart's gone, Shell blew up. We heard the explosion. We were right there, down by the river. We got pulled out of there."

His boss came to the truck and told everyone it was time to go.

"Last night was a 22-hour day, with two to three hours' sleep if you're lucky," he said.

"And they're sending us back in."



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FROM FIRE TO FIRE

Resettled families are forced to flee again

As members of Fahed Labek's family from war-torn Syria fled the inferno engulfing their adopted Alberta hometown, he recalls them staring back at the flames in Fort McMurray.

"They said, 'OK. We left the fire and now we saw another fire. From fire to fire,' " said Labek, 43, who fled the approaching wildfire on Tuesday.

Labek lives in Fort McMurray with his wife and two children. He helped relocate his mother, sister, brother-in-law and their two children to his home in late February.

They are among about six families of Syrian refugees that resettled in the city in recent months.

All the families are believed to have evacuated Fort McMurray safely, said Amany Darwish, president of The Canadian True Power, a non-profit organization that has helped some refugees get familiarized with the community.

"I'm sure it will bring back memories for them," said Darwish, who was reached Thursday in Fort McMurray where she and her husband remained to help firefighters. "They will be terrified again and I'm sure they are very worried."

Her group provided some refugees with items to help them restart their lives, but she said "they already lost it again because the evacuation was very quick."

Labek and his family left in a rush for oilsand workers' camps to the north of the city, expecting a 45-minute drive. Instead they drove for eight hours and when they arrived, apologetic aid workers told them no beds were available.

The family set off again for Edmonton. When their car broke down they were picked up by other evacuees in two different vehicles. Labek was awake for 42 hours before everyone reunited in Edmonton at about 6 a.m. Wednesday.

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Elie Kallas on the shoulders of his father, Salem Kallas, with wife and mother Rita Khanchat, right, SRSG co-founder Saima Jamal, centre. JENNIFER FRIESEN/FOR METRO

Refugees giving back

COMPASSION

Volunteers put together hygiene kits for evacuees

Lucie Edwardson
Metro | Calgary

Syrian refugees are giving what little they have to support those who can do nothing but watch as their lives and homes burn in Fort McMurray.

Rita Khanchat, who, along with her family, came to Calgary in late December as they fled the civil war in Syria, said they know what the people of Fort McMurray are going through.

"We understand totally what they're feeling because we've passed through the same situation. We lost everything in just one second — maybe not from burning, but it still feels the same," she said.

Khanchat recalls what she felt leaving behind childhood memories and precious wedding photos. "My dearest items, everything," she said. "You can't replace them, and you will be very sad when you lose these things, even more than when you lose your windows and doors."

Khanchat and her family along with other Syrian refugees and volunteers from the Syrian Refugee Support Group (SRSG) are putting together personal hygiene kits for evacuees.

Saima Jamal, co-founder of the SRSG, said this is one of her proudest moments since starting the volunteer organization. Jamal said all the refugees the SRSG has helped are donating at least $5 and whatever else they can afford.

Jamal said since posting the initiative online she has seen many people who were against bringing refugees to Canada have a change of heart.

"They are now seeing firsthand that they are people with humanity just like the rest of us, and they want to help in any way they can, too," she said.

Khanchat said when she explained to her young five-year-old son, Elie, what had happened, he also understood what it meant and immediately stepped into action.

"He started collecting his toys and items for the other kids," she said. "He wants them to have them because he remembers too what it was like to lose his own."

The refugees are collecting hygiene items such as shampoo, conditioner, toothbrushes and toothpaste as well as feminine products.

They are compiling them into 99 Hampers of Hope (the name given to a similar effort to help Syrian refugees when they arrived) that will be donated and taken to evacuees both in Calgary and elsewhere.

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40 weeks pregnant and fleeing the fire

SURVIVAL

What's left of her street looks like 'a nuke bomb went off'

Helen Pike
Metro | Calgary

Fort McMurray resident Kyle McLaren is now in Calgary, days away from giving birth to a baby girl. JENNIFER FRIESEN/FOR METRO

Kyle McLaren and her husband have been gathering baby items for months in preparation for the arrival of a baby girl.

Everything changed in an instant for the Fort McMurray couple. Though they figured they had 30 minutes to spare, McLaren said the wildfire's heat came on quickly and she didn't even have time to grab shoes before fleeing their rental home in the community of Abasand.

"We left in 30 seconds, I didn't have shoes on my feet," McLaren said. "I grabbed my purse, grabbed my dog, my husband and we left."

What's left of her street now looks like a "nuke bomb went off," she said. A neighbour sent them photos. It's all gone.

More than 80,000 people were evacuated from Fort McMurray, and Tuesday night there were evacuations in Anzac, Gregoire Lake Estates and the Fort McMurray First Nation where some fleeing the fire had taken refuge.

"We only have the clothes on our backs," McLaren said, adding that neither has a toothbrush. "Two days ago I just finished putting her nursery together; everything was perfect. This is our first baby. We had everything, we were so ready… Now we have nothing."

In one way, McLaren feels lucky. She's 40 weeks pregnant, and could have gone into labour at any time. That's what happened to two other women who delivered babies early Tuesday morning, at the Noralta Lodge at Fort McMurray Village. McLaren said one of the women on a Facebook support group for expectant moms went into labour on the highway.

"It's such a long drive in general, plus with back-to-back traffic I was trying so hard to not get too upset and not freak myself out," she said. "I was trying so hard just to breathe, but it was so hard."

It took them three hours just to get outside of city limits. She tried not to think about what they had lost, running out of gas, getting caught in traffic. That's what kept her going all the way to Calgary to be with family.

Family have set up a fund for McLaren on Gofundme: formysisterkyle. Groups throughout Alberta are accepting baby items, and donations to help those still in camps can be made to the Red Cross.

MEDICINE

Health centres face swell of evacuees

Jeremy Simes
For Metro | Calgary

Health centres in towns close to Fort McMurray have seen nearly three times the usual amount of patients, as evacuees fleeing the singed city seek care south of town.

On Thursday, 88,000 people from Fort McMurray and area were either up north or down south, seeking refuge in camps set up by local jurisdictions.

About 280 kilometres south of the city, in the communities of Boyle and Lac la Biche, health centres have never seen so many patients seek medical care, according to local workers.

Debbie, who didn't provide her last name, said the associated medical clinic of Lac La Biche — which is the only clinic in town, besides the local hospital — has never been so busy.

"We're accommodating so many people," Debbie said. "(Doctors) are taking in extra people and have extended their hours."

Alberta Health Services (AHS) has bolstered staff — including mental health workers — for nearby evacuation centres.

The health centre in Boyle is about three times busier, said a hospital worker.

> **"Many people left home without their medications."**
> Debbie, health worker in Lac La Biche

As for Boyle's only clinic, staff have been working around the clock to keep lines moving.

Sheila Mellott, a receptionist at the Boyle family clinic, said many evacuees are visiting the clinic for medication — as most left their medicines at home — and for their anxiety.

"One girl came in and said she lost her house, and we asked for her address. She said, 'I don't know what it is now,' in tears," Mellott said. "There's a little bit of emotions, for sure. But everyone is co-operative and people are getting help."

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Old friend breaks out trapped dog

Cuddles the dog CONTRIBUTED

Jeremy Simes
For Metro | Calgary

After being trapped for 36 hours in a downtown Fort McMurray apartment, Cuddles the dog was rescued by a Good Samaritan who hadn't yet evacuated the burning city.

On Wednesday, Allison Wiseman, who had fled town for Red Deer, called for help on social media when she learned her dog had been left behind, as its caretakers were barred from re-entering the city.

Wiseman said people called from coast to coast to offer aid.

"Complete strangers had called from Calgary, Edmonton, Toronto," she said.

However, it turns out Wiseman's old classmate — who asked to be anonymous — was still in town.

"I said, 'Break the door down. You got to do what you got to do,'" she said. "I said I'll pay for it; I don't care."

The Samaritan then busted open the entrance, ran to the third floor and then broke down the door to her apartment.

"He went in there and grabbed her," she said. "She was obviously very thirsty because she didn't have any water."

Wiseman said she feels for all the trapped animals.

"They can't help themselves," she said. "They're innocent and they don't know if their owners are coming home."

Whiskey, a chi-weenie, was left at home as his owner couldn't go back to get him during the Fort McMurray fires. CONTRIBUTED

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Danger delaying pet rescue

ANIMAL WELFARE

Hundreds of animals left stranded in their homes

Jeremy Simes
For Metro | Calgary

Help is on the way for some of Fort McMurray's displaced and stranded animals, though the situation appears to have worsened, according to SPCA workers in the area.

After raging wildfires on Tuesday left more than 200 animals stranded in their homes, Suncor Energy and numerous Calgarians donated more than 300 crates so furry friends up north can be easily transported.

On Thursday, rescuers said they don't expect to conduct rescue operations until Monday, according to RJ Bailot, executive director with the Alberta Spay Neuter Task Force.

"It's still too dangerous to go into town," Bailot said. "We know animals are in people's cars that have been abandoned on the road; they just couldn't take them."

Horrifyingly, Bailot said, more than 100 pooches and pigs at the MacKenzie Boarding Kennel, located near the airport, have been abandoned by keepers as they were told to evacuate Wednesday night.

"It's haunting me. I haven't been able to sleep," Bailot said. "It was impossible for them to round them all up in a short amount of time."

Bailot emphasized many residents didn't intentionally leave animals behind. He said people couldn't return home as conditions were unsafe.

> **We're not sure if their owners are here.**
> Deanna Thompson

"People could hear their dogs barking from a distance, but couldn't get them because they weren't allowed back," he said. "I just can't imagine."

Some Fort McMurray animals have made their way down to Calgary, according to Deanna Thompson, executive director with Alberta Animal Rescue Crew Society. "We're not sure if their owners are here," she said. "There still isn't a lot of information."

Bailot said rescue groups are doing their best. "We learned a lot from the 2013 flood," he said. "But fires are so much different."

Man now survivor of 2 major fires

ESCAPE

Matt Livingstone lived through Fort McMurray, Barriere blazes

Aaron Chatha
Metro | Calgary

Matt Livingstone has now survived two of the most destructive wildfires in Canadian history: first, the 2003 fire in Barriere, B.C. and now the fire currently ravaging Fort McMurray.

"I never thought I'd have to live through a fire like this again," said Livingstone, from the Shell Albian Sands camp where he and his wife were seeking refuge.

When he got the call on Tuesday that there was a mandatory evacuation of Fort McMurray, he and his wife weren't able to reach their home to get any supplies — all they had was the clothes on their backs.

Similarly, in 2003, Livingstone was in Kamloops when he heard reports of the wildfire in Barriere.

He said the biggest difference between surviving the two fires was communication.

"In 2003, I got a report — because I was stuck in Kamloops — that Barriere had been completely destroyed," he recalled.

"Meanwhile, my father is standing in the middle of Barriere, listening to the same broadcast, going, well, Barriere is looking pretty good, because it hadn't been destroyed at all."

During the Fort McMurray evacuation, after the first few hours, he said officials were quick to release up-to-date information on the fire and evacuation procedures, and correct any rumours.

The 2003 B.C. wildfire affected Barriere, Louis Creek and Kamloops. It was one of the worst in B.C.'s history. THE CANADIAN PRESS

MONITORING

Evacuees trying to check on houses

People are fleeing Fort McMurray, unaware whether their homes are still standing.

Many have taken to social media or followed updates from the Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo for updates as to which areas have been hit by the wildfire.

Teacher Johnnie Dulku is with his family at the Noralta Lodge, and is using whatever means he can to check if his house is still intact.

"Yep, my PVR is still communicating, and I deleted a show to confirm," he said.

Being a teacher, he also used the sensors on his school's greenhouse to make sure the facility was still standing as well.

The sensors not only responded back to him — but also seemed to indicate smoke was clearing up over that particular area.

Matt Livingstone, from the Shell Albian Sands camp, said he was watching through his security cameras to check on the condition of his home, confirming that his home still has power.

Unfortunately, he couldn't tell much about the condition of the fire in the surrounding area through his limited camera view.

Residents continue to check up at one their homes from whatever limited means they have, but evacuees have told Metro that in camps further north, cell reception can be non-existent and the limited Wi-Fi is spotty at best.

AARON CHATHA/METRO

Evacuees from the Fort McMurray wildfires arrive at the evacuation centre in Edmonton on Thursday. Many people continue to check up at one their homes from whatever limited means they have. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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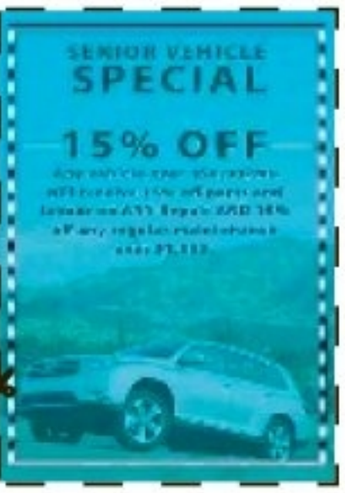

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Conservation officers haul supplies to the Evacuation Centre in Anzac south of Fort McMurray.
THE CANADIAN PRESS

Donations to Red Cross reach $11M

SUPPORT

Province, feds pledge to match individual donations

Aaron Chatha
Metro | Calgary

As fires rage in Fort McMurray, there has been an outpouring of support from Canadians. As of Thursday, the Canadian Red Cross had received $11 million in direct donations.

"We know Albertans are stepping up to help the people of Fort McMurray; that's what Albertans do when people are in need," said Alberta Premier Rachel Notley in a statement.

"The most effective thing people can do right now is make donations to the Red Cross, knowing our government will match those funds."

Donations can be made through www.redcross.ca or by phoning 1-800-418-1111.

Notley said the Alberta Government will match Red Cross donations in support of Fort McMurray, and will provide the Red Cross an additional $2 million in seed money to kick-start operations.

"Homes have been destroyed. Neighbourhoods have gone up in flames. The footage we've seen of cars racing down highways while fire races on all sides is nothing short of terrifying," Prime Minister Justin Trudeau said in Parliament on Thursday, calling it "the largest fire evacuation in Alberta's history."

He said the federal government will also match individual charitable donations to the Red Cross.

As for Thursday morning, the fire had grown to 85,000 hectares.

85,000

The Fort McMurray wildfires had spread across 85,000 hectares as of Thursday morning.

> **Homes have been destroyed. Neighbourhoods have gone up in flames. The footage we've seen of cars racing down highways while fire races on all sides is nothing short of terrifying.** PM Justin Trudeau

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DONATIONS

Calgary businesses dig deep for victims

Brodie Thomas
Metro | Calgary

The ties between Calgary and Fort McMurray may have been on the wane since the downturn — but the wildfires have brought the two cities back together.

Across the city, businesses with and without direct links to Fort McMurray have been doing what they can to help residents of the city.

The owner of Briden Solutions — a company that specializes in survival supplies — offered to send non-perishable food items from his store to the communities.

Dwight Bullock said within two hours of putting word out on the Internet, he had 40 30-day food buckets sponsored. He was getting them ready to send up to camps in the affected area.

$100K

Servus Credit Union has two branches in Fort McMurray. It announced it would donate $100,000 to the Canadian Red Cross Alberta Fires Appeal.

Fiasco Gelato, a company that recently had to close its storefront for four months due to fire, donated its Wednesday café proceeds to the Red Cross.

NorthStar Ford has a location in Calgary, but its headquarters are in Fort McMurray. The company was loading up a tractor-trailer with donated goods to be trucked to residents in camps.

Spokeswoman Sherry Haynes said by Wednesday afternoon, the trailer was about half-full with donated goods, and the flow was not slowing down.

That truck was in Lac La Biche by Thursday morning, and NorthStar was preparing two more trucks — one for firefighters and another for evacuees.

Many have left the Noralta camp by air — leaving their vehicles and possessions behind at the camp. COURTESY JOHNNY DULKU

Escape continues

SAFETY

Some residents flown out of camps, others look to highway

Aaron Chatha
Metro | Calgary

Residents trapped in the camps north of Fort McMurray are finally seeing some respite — officials are making moves to bring them to safer positions in the south.

By air

Fort McMurray resident Carrie said she was being flown out of the Canadian Natural Resources Limited (CNRL) camp on Thursday afternoon. But, unfortunately that meant she'd have to leave her car and everything in it behind.

"It's everything we were able to take that was important when we evacuated," she said, via Twitter direct message with Metro. "We were evacuated early, we were able to take the most important sentimental stuff.

"But now have to leave most of it here. We have some clothes, our dogs and each other. We will be okay. Just hard to take."

Officials have indicated they want to evacuate most of the 25,000 people in the camps, and get them to safer points in the south.

A CNRL statement said that 1,400 of their workers have left from their aerodome, and about 1,200 evacuees have been flown out to secure shelter in Edmonton or Calgary by Thursday.

Patrick Bennett, a 28-year Fort McMurray resident in the Joslyn Creek camp, said he's lucky he doesn't have much stuff with him.

"It sure will be hard flying over my city, though," he said.

Bennett will be landing in Edmonton, where he plans to stay with his brother for the time being.

By road

Johnny Dulku is closer to Fort McMurray than the other camps — he's at the Noralta Lodge, about 75 km from the fires.

He said the mood at the camp has turned sombre.

"There is a shortage of pet food and toiletries, and things for people to do to keep their minds occupied," he said.

Many have already flown out of the camp and left their vehicles behind, but Dulku said word is going around that the highway may reopen — and allow for vehicles to drive to safer points in the south.

In an earlier press conference, officials had said they were working out details to possibly send fuel trucks north to help the drivers.

Dulku said word spread around the camp, and people are packing their things to prepare for a possible incoming convoy that will include fuel trucks to escort them to the south.

Some have even left under the premise that the highway will hopefully reopen by the time they reach the blockade. Later on Thursday, he said many of those vehicles had returned, as they were unable to continue by road.

He doesn't know when the highway will reopen, but one thing is clear:

"It may be a long time until we return to Fort McMurray."

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University of Calgary and the students' union are at court, fighting over the custody of MacEwan Hall student centre. METRO FILE

U of C, students at odds over MacEwan

DISPUTE

Court to say who owns the student centre building

Helen Pike
Metro | Calgary

An unprecedented court hearing between the University of Calgary and its students' union has begun, but it won't be proceeding too quickly.

The students' union hasn't yet been granted an interim court injunction to continue operations of the MacEwan Hall student centre. On Wednesday, a judge heard the SU lawyer's argument for the injunction, but noted there may not have been sufficient time in the half-day session for her to come to a decision.

The current License of Occupation, Operating and Management Agreement (LOOMA) was set to expire midnight on Friday. Both parties agreed that since the next court date isn't for another few weeks, and a decision may not come forward from Justice Kim Nixon until June, to keep the 1999 iteration of the agreement active until a decision has been made.

"I disagree with their argument, to be honest, but ultimately it's the court's decision at this point," said SU president Stephan Guscott. "I do think the SU would seek harm if the current agreement was terminated."

This is just the beginning, of what could be a long court battle between the University of Calgary and the SU to determine who has a majority-stake ownership of the student-run centre.

> **It's the court's decision at this point.**
> Stephan Guscott

On the SU side, it believes its stake in the building is at least 55 per cent, after unearthing documents and agreements from past administration showing a 1969 agreement back when the school and union were both chipping in to the building's original cost. Since then, the SU has documented millions of contribution dollars to the construction, upgrades and operations. In the modern agreements, the SU feels it's treated as a tenant.

"Students paid a substantial amount of money and for a number of years, between 1961 and 1981, as you heard today students paid $19 million for a building," Guscott said. "There's a lot of grey area there about the land and the building…and that's what the court is going to be deciding."

The U of C has maintained throughout public discussions that the existing 1999 LOOMA clearly refers to the university as the owner of Mac Hall. Thursday, U of C counsel Eugene Bodnar said there isn't a legal entity for the SU to claim ownership on a building that sits on land owned by the board of governors. And further, leading up to the 1999 agreement, the students gave up their "claim to ownership interest" and that they never had an ownership interest to begin with.

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Hot deals on cool rides at Bike Swap

FUNDRAISER

Early birds and 'good causes' will benefit from large sale

Brodie Thomas
Metro | Calgary

In the market for a new-used cycle?

This weekend, the mother-of-all bike sales will be happening at the city centre parkade at 340-10 Avenue SW.

This sale — brought to you by the not-for-profit Alberta Bike Swap Ltd. — kicks off at 2:30 p.m. Saturday and it runs until 4 p.m.

Event organizer Chris Grant said buyers should arrive early, because most of the cycles are gone within the first 40 minutes.

You want to buy a bicycle? You want to buy a bike? This weekend's bike swap could be a chance to get a great deal on a gently used velocipede. FACEBOOK

If you're looking to unload an old bike, the process is simple. You drop your cycle off to them between 8 a.m. and 2 p.m. You pay a racking fee of $15 (or $10 if you're an AMA member). If your bike sells, you'll get a cheque.

Grant said the money raised will be going to good causes. The group was formed to raise money towards getting more people on bikes.

"Our cause and our focus remains the same," he said. "The funds we raise will be used to support safe cycling and cycling education in the four cities we work in."

> **Our cause and our focus remains the same.**
> Chris Grant, organizer

If you're planning to cycle for charity in the near-future, Grant may be able to help you out.

"We continue to support people who ride in the Ride to Conquer Cancer, and the MS Society's Bike Tour. If you're riding in that we'll pledge you $50 when you bring a bike in to sell."

He said anyone searching for a stolen bike can drop by at 2 p.m. if they have paperwork showing they reported their cycle stolen. He noted that nobody has ever tried to sell a stolen bike in six years.

CRIME

Police search for link in shootings

The Calgary Police Service is investigating two shootings that occurred in the city's southwest in April and March that didn't cause injuries, but did cause extensive structural damage to the residences at which they occurred.

At 5:45 a.m. on March 16, shots were fired into a home in the 0-100 block of Springbank Mews SW, according to police.

Police said the home's occupants were not injured, though the house was severely damaged.

Investigators are trying to determine if that shooting is connected to an incident that occurred on April 29.

At 5 a.m. on April 29, police said a residential alarm was triggered at a home in the 0-100 block of Spring Village Lane SW.

Though residents weren't inside at the time, officers said they found damage to the home and a black 2007 Chevrolet Tahoe, which was parked on the driveway.

Anyone with more information about both crimes are asked to contact police at 403-266-1234. METRO

IN BRIEF

Police catch nine alleged ATM thieves

Calgary police have taken down a band of nine thieves alleged to have broken into or stolen ATM machines, among other spoils.

While investigating a drug-trafficking operation, CPS connected the possible drug offenders to fraudulently purchased and stolen vehicles.

During the month-long investigation, police found a total of 12 stolen vehicles, 10 stolen licence plates, two rifles, one shotgun, a small amount of cash, heroin, marijuana and meth. METRO

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Kids honour green trees under grey skies

ENVIRONMENT

St. Jerome School hosts Arbour Day, plants tree

Jennifer Friesen
For Metro

A firefighter helps water the new tree planted at St. Jerome School. JENNIFER FRIESEN/FOR METRO

Despite the wind and rain, hundreds of students gathered and cheered as the Arbour Day flag was raised outside of St. Jerome School on Thursday morning.

Arbour Day is Calgary's longest-running civic greening project, celebrated the first Thursday of May. Each year, a new elementary school hosts the ceremony and, in return, has an official Arbour Day tree planted on school grounds.

"I think that, unfortunately, people are further and further away (from) nature," said St. Jerome School principal David Gustavson. "Naturally, I think kids want to be a part of nature, they want to be outside among the trees, and by celebrating that, it brings it to the forefront for them."

On Arbour Day, every Grade 1 student gets a seedling of their own to plant at home. It's estimated 425,000 seedlings have been handed out to date, which Gustavson said helps "bring those lessons home to their families."

After Tree Canada's Gerard Fournier presented the Arbour Day flag to the school on Thursday, he said that these moments are the "high point" of his year.

"We all firmly believe that teaching the importance of trees and the importance of the environment is going to be the foundation for the future of our society and our continued existence as a species on this planet," he said.

PUBLIC SAFETY

Provincewide fire ban now in effect

Aaron Chatha
Metro | Calgary

The Alberta government has initiated a provincewide fire ban.

"Conditions are very hot for this time of the year, and the risk of fire is very high," said Oneil Carlier, minister of agriculture and forestry.

"We cannot control what Mother Nature does, but we can do our part to minimize some of the causes of wildfires."

Carlier said firefighters are currently battling blazes across the province, including the 85,000-hectare fire around Fort McMurray.

In addition to the fire ban, officials are asking Albertans to limit their off-highway vehicle use as much as possible this weekend to prevent the sparking of even more fires.

Shannon Phillips, minister of environment and parks, asked Albertans to reconsider their recreation plans.

"We're not invoking a forest closure, because to do so would have other consequences," she said, referring to the economic impact on campgrounds and private facilities.

Plus, for people living in those areas, a closure could require them to obtain permits just to reach their own homes.

> **This is something people can do to help.**
> Shannon Phillips, minister of Environment and Parks

"All over social media, people have been asking, 'What can I do to help?'

"This is something people can do to help."

She said it will ensure necessary resources aren't diverted from the wildfires currently burning in the province.

Phillips also asked people using incendiaries for target practice to cease doing so.

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AMVIC

CULTURE

No more rodeo as Edmonton backs out

Kevin Maimann
Metro | Edmonton

The Canadian Finals Rodeo (CFR) is out, and a new "western lifestyle party" is in.

The Canadian Professional Rodeo Association (CPRA) rejected the city's initial bid to extend the long-standing Edmonton event for another five years in February, and on Thursday Mayor Don Iveson announced Edmonton has withdrawn its bid.

The city had offered more money than in past years, but the CPRA wanted a revenue guarantee and all the profits.

"If the event didn't work out the way it was planned, that risk would come back to the City of Edmonton and could potentially have been much larger than the support that we've provided historically," Iveson said.

"To expect the city to take promoter risk but also to not get the upside if the event was successful is not fair and not an acceptable risk to the taxpayers."

In place of the CFR, the Oilers Entertainment Group (OEG) has struck a deal with Professional Bull Riders to bring three days of bull riding to Rogers Place in 2017, coinciding with Farm Fair at Northlands.

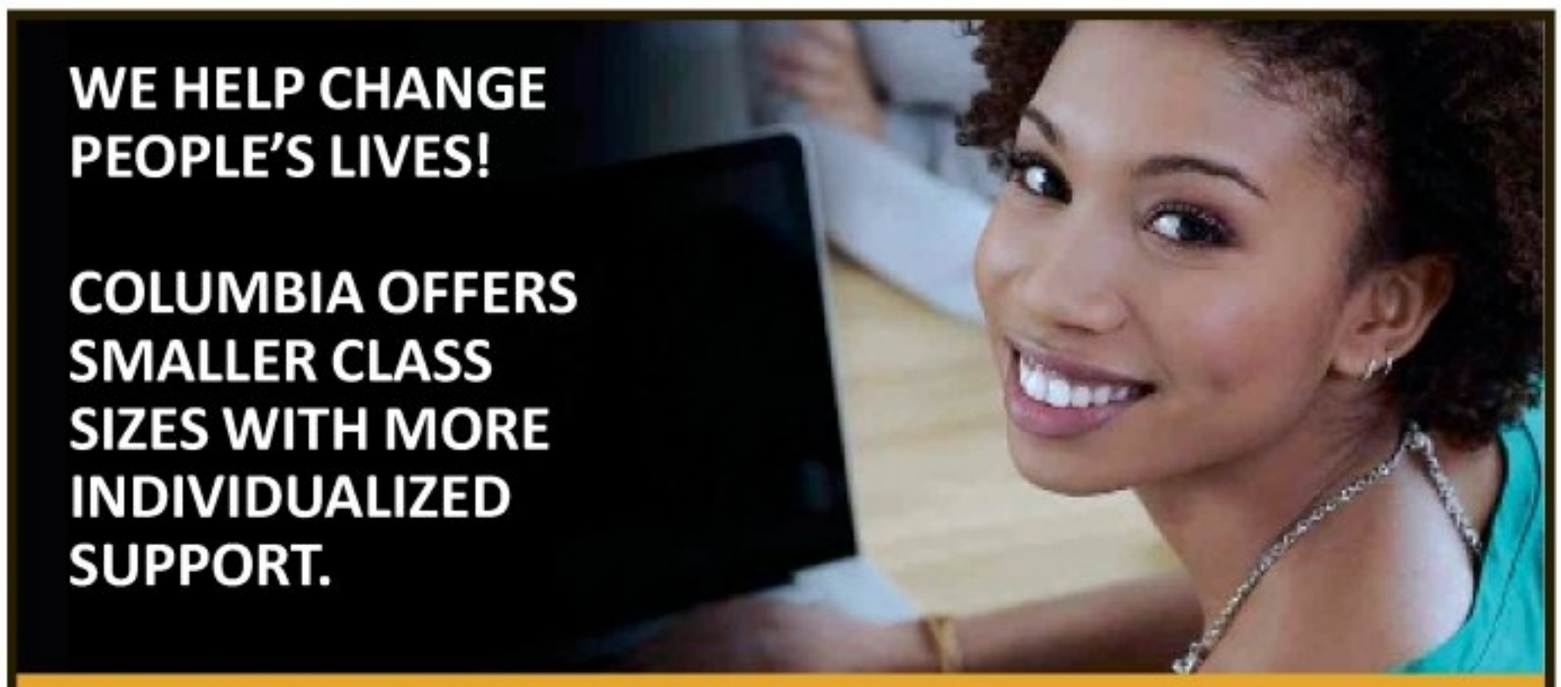
Iveson said Farm Fair brings in $20 million to Edmonton's economy annually.

OEG's CEO and vice-president Bob Nicholson said the new event — which he characterized as a "western lifestyle party" — will likely run over 10 days, including music, NHL hockey, community events and other entertainment.

Nicholson said the International Management Group (IMG) is also in on the new deal and has TV agreements lined up with TSN and CBS.

The bull-riding portion is secured, but other details are still in the works.

The 2016 CFR will go ahead as planned at Northlands in November.



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Craig Chandler stepped down from his position on the PCAA board last week after making Facebook comments about halal meat. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Chandler eviscerated

BULLYING

PC politician characterizes online attacks as 'brutal'

Lucie Edwardson
Metro | Calgary

Progressive Conservative politician Craig Chandler said he's shocked by the Internet bullying to which he's been subjected recently.

The name calling and threats directed at Chandler on Twitter and Facebook came after Facebook comments he made last week over boycotting Earls for buying meat from Creekstone Farms because they offer halal meat, to which Chandler wrote:

"So now Earls supports terrorists as well? Wow," he wrote.

Social media blew up with many Albertans voicing their outrage because they believed Chandler was inferring Muslims were terrorists.

The backlash led to him resigning from his position on the PCAA board.

"It's been brutal, actually," he said.

Chandler said he was particularly hit hard by a tweet from someone telling him to kill himself.

"I found my best friend in 1993 in my garage in Burlington, Ontario — and he'd committed suicide," he said. "So that hit me pretty hard."

Chandler said the Internet commenters also attacked his children.

"They said, 'Your kids are stupid and hopefully your kids die of cancer,'" he said. "It was vicious."

Chandler said he knows most of the accounts making the comments don't appear to be real people but said someone is still behind this.

"I can handle lots of stuff, but the suicide comment and attack on my kids — those two were really hard," he said.

"It's unacceptable. People are a lot tougher behind a keyboard."

Chandler said he's never experienced this kind of bullying, adding that even those whom he doesn't usually see eye-to-eye with could see how out of hand it was getting.

> **They said, 'Your kids are stupid and hopefully your kids die of cancer'.... It was vicious.**
> Progressive Conservative politician Craig Chandler, on comments he has received online since writing a controversial post

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A look at the life of C.S. Lewis

SCENE YYC

Shadowlands a complex story of faith, love

Aaron Chatha
Metro | Calgary

Fire Exit Theatre is bringing the life of C.S. Lewis, author of the Chronicles of Narnia books, to the Calgary stage.

Shadowlands follows Lewis in the later stages of his life, and follows his romance with Joy Gresham, a writer from America.

Originally, she was just looking to secure her British citizenship with her two sons. The arrangement soon becomes a romance. However, Gresham is then diagnosed with terminal cancer.

"It's the story of a man who has this great theory of God, of suffering and of love, which he has to put into practice," said Val Lieske, artistic director. "How do you believe in a benevolent God when you are faced with unbelievable suffering?"

The play explores C.S. Lewis' romance with American writer Joy Gresham and her two sons. COURTESY TARA WHITTAKER

She said he has to find a way to move his theology from his head, to his heart.

The play is a partnership with Hit & Myth Productions, and will end Fire Exit's 14th season.

Playing the title role of Lewis is Calgary actor Joel Cochrane. Lieske said Cochrane is usually known for bringing larger, more controversial pieces to Calgary.

Fire Exit Theatre has a mandate to tell stories about faith, belief, the lack of belief and why.

"I think we're sort of strange bedfellows, in the sense that, he's the guy known for bringing in Evil Dead: The Musical and You're In Town. So there could be sex and violence," laughed Lieske. "He's that guy, and I'm the faith-based company that likes to talk about God. We're calling it a sinners and saints show."

> **"We're calling it a sinners and saints show.**
> Val Lieske

This is one of the largest pieces Lieske has ever done, with an 11-person cast. Shadowlands has previously been adapted as a film starring Anthony Hopkins as Lewis.

Lieske said the stage version does not stray far from the screenplay, and that it is a very intimate piece.

Shadowlands runs at Arts Commons from May 12 to 22. For more information, visit www.fireexit.ca.

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WEEKEND EVENTS

FRIDAY — Jimmy Carr
English comedian Jimmy Carr stops by Calgary in his first every Canadian tour. Known for his dark humour and one-liners, Carr has been seen at the Montreal Just For Laughs Festival.
For more information, visit hahaha.com
AARON CHATHA/METRO

SATURDAY — Beerfest
More than 500 different beers will be sampled at the annual International Beerfest.
From local, national and international breweries, there will also be food from more than 40 of Calgary's restaurants and pubs.
For more information, visit www.albertabeerfestivals.com

SATURDAY — Boccenalia
The Christine Klassen Gallery will transform into the Italian Renaissance for one evening.
The gallery will host indoor bocce tournaments, Italian romantic music, masks and food.
You can also decorate your own renaissance-style mask. For more information, visit www.elephantartistrelief.com.

SUNDAY — Grand Spring Gala
The Calgary Boys' Choir is joined by four special guest choirs for its season finale. The guest choires are The Mount Royal Arietta and Arioso, Il Sono Men's Vocal Ensemble, Andrew Ball and the Western Hospitality Singers.
This is the end of their 43rd season. For more information, visit www.calgaryboyschoir.com

At this year's burger fest, each restaurant features a unique burger at $10, $15 or $20. CONTRIBUTED

Got beef?

SCENE Q&A

Alberta Burger Festival runs from May 6 - 15

Aaron Chatha
Metro | Calgary

Alberta Burger Fest returns to Calgary May 6 to 15. This year it features more than 100 restaurants, in 38 neighbourhoods around the city, vying for the title of best burger.

Chair of the Alberta Burger Fest committee, Terry Lo, shares with Metro the most interesting burgers being featured this year.

The only rule is that the burgers have be something not on the regular menu, and use as many locally sourced ingredients as possible.

For more information, visit www.albertaburgerfest.com.

What are some of the quirkiest burgers out there this year?
"We've had some people make some incredibly imaginative items already.

There's Farm. They took a $1,000 piece of cheese and turned it into processed slices and put the stuff in their burgers.

Banner Deluxe. They're putting butter-poached lobster in their burgers.

Burger 320 has three different burgers because they have three different locations. Their food truck has, instead of a bun, they created in an Italian flatbread instead.

And Heaven's Artisan. It's South American food. They're creating arepas, a whole different way to making the bun and cooking the meat."

And what if you're looking for just a good, solid burger?
In terms of just outright outstanding, the one to always look for: Notable. It's the only one that's almost won all three previous years. It lost the first year by two votes.

Notable will always have a darn good chance at winning, because their burgers are outstanding.

Also to look out for is Naina's Kitchen, the very first winner in 2013 who beat notable. They've created this Badass Berry Burger. It's a berry-stuffed burger.

How has Burger Fest grown since its inception?
In the past, the festival was never more than 30 to 35 restaurants, because we capped it.

Last year we capped it at 35 but we received 80 applications.

But, because of the economy and raw demand, this year we opened it up. Little did we know we would become the biggest food festival in the city.

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Trump moves to raise funds

U.S. ELECTION

Front-runner reaching out to party heavyweights

Donald Trump THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Donald Trump is taking his first steps toward raising the massive amounts of money needed for a national presidential race, aiming to broaden his primary insurgency into a full-fledged general election campaign and unite the fractured Republican Party behind him.

Trump is reaching out to party heavyweights, hoping to repair his at-times strained relationships with the Republican National Committee and big GOP donors whom he bashed repeatedly during the primaries.

On Thursday, his campaign named a finance chairman, Steven Mnuchin, who is chairman and chief executive officer of Dune Capital management LLC, a private investment firm, and previously worked at the New York bank Goldman Sachs. Mnuchin "brings unprecedented experience and expertise" to the fundraising operation, the campaign said.

Trump's new efforts include taking pains to reassure party leaders that he wants to help Republican Senate and House candidates, some of whom have expressed major concerns that Trump at the top of the GOP ticket will be a drag on their own campaigns.

Earlier this week, Trump's final GOP foes, Ted Cruz and John Kasich, suddenly dropped out, clearing his path to the nomination. But some of the party's big names are still keeping Trump at arm's length. Neither former President George W. Bush nor Mitt Romney, the 2012 GOP nominee, plans to attend the party's national convention in July.

Members of the celebrity businessman's campaign were to meet with the party's national committee and enter a joint fundraising agreement needed for both his bid and for Republicans to maintain control of Capitol Hill, aides said.

"In order to really govern, we need majorities in the House and Senate. We're going to work with the party to raise money for down-ballot races to be successful," said Corey Lewandowski, Trump's campaign manager, in an interview Thursday.

Trump, a billionaire who paid for most of his primary campaign by himself, acknowledges he would have to sell some of his holdings to muster the hundreds of millions of dollars for a general election bid, something he said he doesn't necessarily want to do.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

REFUGEE CRISIS

MIGRANTS IN LIMBO Migrants and refugees sit near the fence during a protest at the northern Greek border point of Idomeni on Thursday. Migrants and refugees protested against the poor camp conditions and the closed border.

The Greek coast guard says 78 refugees have been rescued from crippled smugglers' boats in two separate incidents in the eastern Aegean Sea.

A patrol vessel from the European Union's Frontex border agency picked up 56 people off the island of Chios on Thursday, and a Greek coast guard launch rescued another 22 off the nearby islet of Panaghia.

GREGORIO BORGIA/ THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

SOLAR SYSTEM

Mercury making rare loop around sun

Earthlings are in for a treat Monday as Mercury makes a relatively rare transit of the sun.

The solar system's smallest, innermost planet will resemble a black round dot as it passes in front of our big, bright star. The last time Mercury crossed directly between the Earth and sun was in 2006, and it won't happen again until 2019 — and then, until 2032. NASA says the event occurs only about 13 times a century.

Louis Mayo, program manager at NASA's Goddard Space Flight Center in Greenbelt, Maryland, considers it "a big deal."

The eastern U.S. and Canada will see the entire 7 1/2-hour transit, as will most of South America, western Europe and westernmost Africa. In the western portion of North America, stargazers can join in midway, at sunrise, while those in eastern Europe, central Asia, the Middle East and most of Africa will have to call it quits early when the sun goes down. Australia will have to sit this one out altogether.

> "Astronomers get excited when any two things come close to each other in the heavens. Louis Mayo

Forget eclipse glasses. At barely 3,000 miles across, Mercury would be too small to spot. You'll need binoculars or telescopes equipped with proper solar filters to protect your eyes.

Look for Mercury south of the sun's equator. The planet might appear as though it's hardly moving, but in reality it will be zooming past the sun at nearly 106,000 mph.

Three spacecraft will observe the transit, so if you can't catch it with your own eyes, check out the space agency online. NASA promises images close to real time from its Solar Dynamic Observatory. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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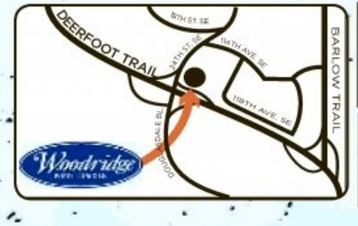

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metro VIEWS

Your essential daily news

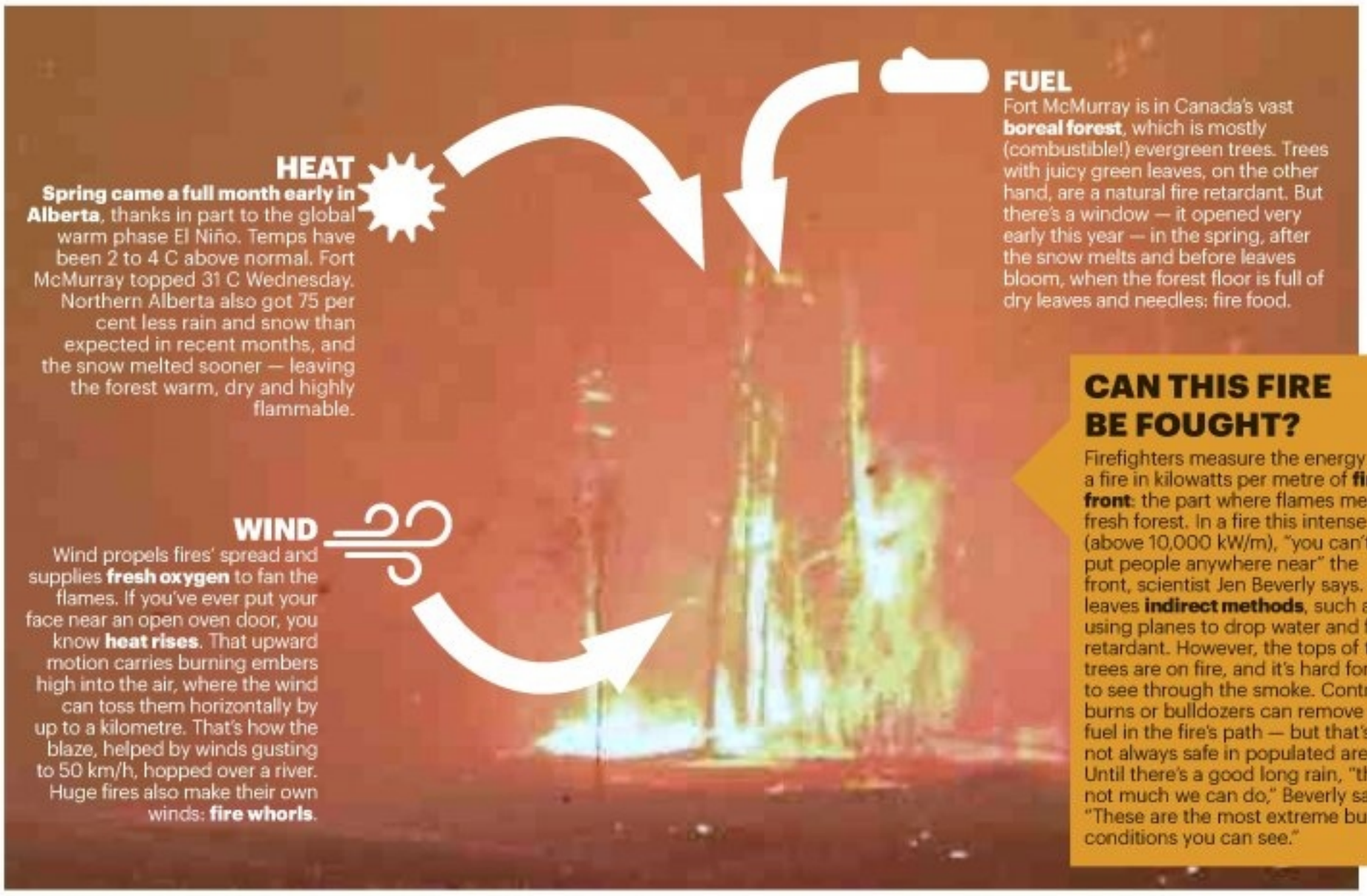
SCIENCE SAYS Weekend, May 6-May 8, 2016

DREAM DRAGONS New science suggests it's not just birds and mammals: Australian dragon lizards have dreamy REM sleep, too.

DECODED Wildfire science

FANNING THE FLAMES OF DISASTER

Forest fires happen every year, and a bit of burning is important for a healthy ecosystem. But this season is different — and not just because **the city of Fort McMurray is in the path of destruction.** In the words of Jen Beverly, who teaches fire science and management at the University of Alberta, this conflagration is "about as explosive as you can get." Here's why.



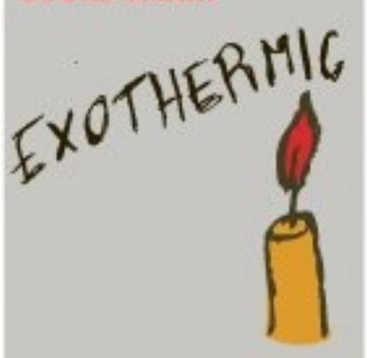
GRAPHICS BY ANDRÉS PLANA/METRO. **TEXT** BY GENNA BUCK, WITH FILES FROM AARON CHATHA. PHOTO: HOLLY AYEARST/THE CANADIAN PRESS

FINDINGS
Your week in science

THE WAY TO A LAB'S HEART ... is through his stomach, as Labrador retriever owners everywhere know. Now science supports them: A new paper in Cell Metabolism identifies a gene variation found in the most "food-motivated" labs. These pups will do anything for treats, including obey commands. It seems to be more common in service dogs — and obese ones.

THE BEST (FLU) SHOT Babies whose moms get a flu shot while pregnant are 70 per cent less likely to have a confirmed case of flu in their first six months, says a Utah study of 245,000 mothers.

SOUND SMART



DEFINITION
Exothermic chemical reactions **release energy in the form of heat.** Combustion (a type of oxidation reaction) is the ultimate example.

USE IT IN A SENTENCE
Carlos' metabolism must be very **exothermic** — he's a human torch! Seriously, his bear hugs could be used to treat people with hypothermia.

CITIZEN SCIENTIST by Genna Buck

Can I grow vegetables in my condo?

How does science say I should grow veggies indoors in a condo? — Ed, Mississauga, Ont.

First, a disclaimer: Every plant I've ever owned has died in my care, with the sole exception of the withering rose on my desk, and its days are numbered.

I'm used to wading in B.S. (bad science) online. But never have I found more conflicting information, all of it claiming to be scientific and authoritative, than when I searched for gardening tips.

I've learned that when I'm out of my depth, experts are infinitely more useful than expert sources. So I put your question to Ontario Master Gardener Cauleen Viscoff. (Master Gardeners are teachers and speakers who've taken scientific courses in horticulture). Her advice is simple: "Think like a plant." Plants need air, light and water and take in nutrients through their roots. The bigger the plant, the deeper the root.

I'm afraid Viscoff poured a watering-can's worth of cold water on your plans, Ed: "You don't want to be planting seeds indoors and expecting you're going to have a vegetable garden. It's not going to work," she said.

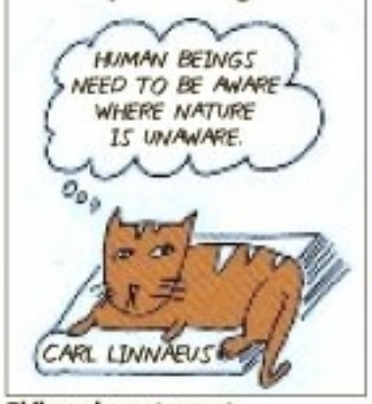
Buy plants, not seeds, she advised, and try starting with a small cherry tomato in the deepest pot you can find. Herbs and salad greens can also be coaxed to grow in a condo, but that's about it: "Most window boxes are not deep enough. Don't expect veggies like peas and carrots unless you have a balcony."

If you're balcony-less, a sunny, south-facing window is the next best thing — but it's a poor substitute for the hours of direct sunlight most fruits and vegetables need every day. And crack it: Your condo air is probably stale.

Beautiful but inedible things like orchids and violets fare the best indoors, Viscoff said. As for most vegetables? "That's what the farmers' market is for."

Science Question? Tweet @genna_buck

PHILOSOPHER CAT
by Jason Logan



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metro WEEKEND
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MOVIES MUSIC TELEVISION GOSSIP

She stands by her superhero

CAPTAIN AMERICA: CIVIL WAR

Talking to the love interest of key Avenger

Richard Crouse
For Metro Canada

Canadian Emily VanCamp plays Sharon Carter, the love interest of Chris Evans, a.k.a. Captain America . HANDOUT

There's trouble in Avengers Land.

Like the recent Batman v. Superman: Dawn of Justice, which saw the Caped Crusader and the Man of Steel go head-to-head in a showdown over how best to police the world, Captain America: Civil War sees the Avengers go mano e' mano e' mano e' mano e' mano e' mano (there's a lot of them) in an effort to settle their differences.

As anyone who has seen the Avengers movies knows, the superhero team have caused havoc all over the world, blowing things up dropping buildings on people, all in the name of law and order. It's been a wild ride but after a rescue mission leaves 11 innocent people dead the United Nations decides it's time to rein them in.

The proposed restrictions divide the group. Tony 'Iron Man' Stark (Robert Downey Jr.) wants more oversight while Captain America (Chris Evans) refuses to compromise.

Watching from the sidelines is Sharon Carter, ex-S.H.I.E.L.D field agent and love interest of Captain America. Played by Port Perry, Ont., native Emily VanCamp, the character is firmly onside with her superhero suitor.

"It's an interesting debate," she says, "because there is no real right or wrong at any given moment. It is difficult to take sides. I know where my character stands. I understand that. Because I play her, I get it but at the same time, as Emily, I really do feel it would make much more sense to be on Iron Man's side. That's what makes it interesting. You think you're going to go into it with a very clear vision of whose side you're on but you don't leave feeling that way."

With two Captain America films under her belt VanCamp is part of the Marvel Universe. That means she has a whole new group of fans with ideas about her character.

"The fans are incredibly invested," she says. "There are a lot of people with very specific ideas of who they want to see with Steve (aka. Captain America) and sometimes Sharon is not that person. I certainly hear about that. You have to admire how invested people are, whether they're on your side or not. You have to respect it. I just have to do the best job I can do as Sharon and create the best version of the character and not take some of it personally. You hope, for the most part, the fans are happy."

The 29-year-old actress began performing in dance class when she was just three years old.

"There were a lot of us in my family so it was a way to tire us out," she laughs. "It was an outlet to run around which then turned into more serious dance training."

Those lessons came in handy while shooting one of Civil War's wild fight scenes.

"Dancing teaches you to be connected with your body," she says.

"We had to shoot the scene in Civil War where Sharon and Black Widow take on Bucky, quite fast. We didn't practice it. They were running behind that day and they shot the reaction to getting slammed on the table the next morning but all of the fight stuff was in an hour-and-a-half. I don't think I would have been able to do that unless I had some formal training in dance."

MOVIE RATINGS by Richard Crouse

Captain America: Civil War	★★★★
The Meddler	★★★
The Rainbow Kid	★★★

HOW RATING WORKS
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THE TV DINNER JESSICA ALLEN

OMG do you think superhero movies are a response to the 2008 financial crisis?

I'm reading a book so good that once I finish it, I plan on immediately starting it again. West of Eden is an oral history of Hollywood told through five different families. The first: oil tycoon Edward Doheny.

So obviously we had to rewatch There Will Be Blood: Paul Thomas Anderson's 2007 film, which stars Daniel Day Lewis as a character very loosely based on Doheny. Over tacos — not real tacos, but the Old El Paso variety — I declared the film, which narrows in on America's obsessions with capitalism and evangelism to be the Citizen Kane of the 21st century.

I also posed a question: "So tell me: if Paul Thomas Anderson directed a superhero movie, would you watch it?"

"Excuse me?" asked Simon.

"I'm having a cinema crisis," I said. "Even though some critics are saying Captain America: Civil War is the best superhero movie yet, I have no desire to see it. When did I lose interest in these DC and Marvel movies? Ok I know: it was after The Dark Knight Rises, or maybe Man of Steel: There is a battle scene in a Manhattan-like setting where sky scrapers crumble and citizens run around the streets covered in debris. I tapped out."

"Was it the incredibly jarring CGI effects?" he asked.

"I think I felt numbed by it," I said. "But in this new

Captain America, apparently Iron Man is disturbed by all the civilian deaths on account of his sky-wrestling with villains. There's morality! So am I selling these superhero movies short just because I assume they're going to be more of the same?"

"Of course you are," Simon said.

"Because I'm a snob?" I asked. "But I love action movies! And I am a child of Steven Spielberg! Not literally, but Jaws is one of my favourite films, and people in the '70s said it was the 'death of cinema' like a lot of critics do today with superhero movies."

"The answer to the first question is that you have a personal fondness for Jaws and you could suspend critical faculties because it means something to you," he said. "But you have no reason to do that with contemporary superhero movies."

"But I did for Tim Burton's Batman, and I loved Richard Donner's Superman," I said, "So maybe the question ought to be: Why suspend disbelief for one and not the other?"

"You were also a lot younger when those hit theatres," he said. "And look at what we're eating tonight. This is a meal from your childhood. You can gussy tacos up with your 'downtown' ingredients, but they probably wouldn't taste as good if they didn't taste just a little like your childhood."

"They really are delicious. I think it's the fresh cilantro," I said. "Or the avocado."

"Personally, I don't have a lot of things in my life that I can control in terms of 'being an adult,'" he explained, "but I can choose not to engage in this perpetual adolescence which is the mode of our culture right now. I get that people need to escape in life and that's what movies are for…"

"Like when people lined up to see Shirley Temple," I said.

"Sure, and also: what are the chances that the single greatest economic depression in the history of U.S. would produce the single greatest flowering of comedy, in the form of screwball?"

"OMG do you think superhero movies are a response to the 2008 financial crisis?"

"I think today there's little impetus for people to give up childish things. But there is for me — and I don't care how many great jokes I'm missing."

"Iron Man is very funny," I said.

"I'm sure he is. Listen, I'm not ashamed to admit that I'm a cultural elitist. I want film to be fortifying. Some people may have walked out of There Will Be Blood wondering why would you want to subject yourself to that? It's exhilaratingly nihilistic. That's precisely why I loved it. That's how I want art to make me feel."

"But what if Paul Thomas Anderson directed a superhero movie?"

"Oh god," he said. "I would watch it in a second."

Jessica Allen is the digital correspondent on CTV's The Social.

Josh Wiggins and Sophie Nélisse star as teen lovers on the run in Mean Dreams by Toronto's Nathan Morlando, which has its world premiere this month at Cannes Film Festival. CONTRIBUTED

CANADIAN CINEMA

A short stroll away from Cannes

Canadians always get a big bonjour at the Cannes Film Festival. Rare is the year without at least one Canuck movie competing for the Palme d'Or.

But there's another corner of Cannes where Canadians possibly get an even warmer welcome, a short stroll away from the Palais des Festivals along the Croisette, the Rivieria waterfront promenade.

It's the Directors' Fortnight, the concurrent program for newer directors and non-traditional cinema styles that began in 1969 in response to social upheavals of the previous year.

The Fortnight, now based in Théâtre Croisette in the JW Marriott, has been the European launch pad for many a great Canadian film and career. This year's Fortnight selection has two Canadian offerings: Torontonian Nathan Morlando's Mean Dreams and Montrealer Kim Nguyen's Two Lovers and a Bear, both films concerning romance on the run.

In separate interviews, both directors are ecstatic about their first Cannes film premieres and in awe of the Fortnight's Canadian legacy.

"I'm learning about it pretty fast," Morlando says of the Fortnight. (His feature debut Citizen Gangster won the Best Canadian First Feature prize at TIFF 2011.)

"I just finished mixing Mean Dreams yesterday, so it's been a really, really intense ride since our invitation. Everybody around me has been getting really excited, but I haven't allowed myself to really enjoy it yet because I was just focused on the film. I've been very nervous about it, because we're hand-delivering it to Cannes on May 8."

Premiering May 15, Mean Dreams is a coming-of-age thriller starring Sophie Nélisse (The Book Thief) and Josh Wiggins (Hellion) as teen lovers Casey and Jonas, running for their lives from a corrupt cop (Bill Paxton).

Nguyen has already planned what he's going to do following the May 18 evening premiere of Two Lovers and a Bear, a Far North adventure starring Tatiana Maslany and Dane DeHaan as lost souls attempting to escape life's cares – and also a hungry polar bear.

"One of my big, big, big objectives in Cannes is to wake up with a wrinkled tuxedo," says Nguyen, who was Oscar-nominated for his 2012 drama Rebelle (War Witch). "I actually want to watch the sunrise with a wrinkled tuxedo. It will be awesome!"

PETER HOWELL/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

3 DIFFERENT MOVIE MOMS

The Wise Mom
Sally Field filled her son with optimism and sensible schooling like "life is like a box of chocolates" in the Oscar-winning hit Forrest Gump.

The Protector
In Terminator 2, Sarah Connor (Linda Hamilton) stopped a robot apocalypse while guarding her son from a murderous cyborg in the guise of Arnold Schwarzenegger.

The Mentor
Sandra Bullock won an Oscar for portraying the real mother that adopted a homeless teen and raised him to become a football great in The Blind Side.

Director Sara Kapoor stars in The Bad Mother, available on Video on Demand. CONTRIBUTED

The Bad Mother makes a good point

COMEDY

Film portrays the stresses of working and parenthood

Steve Gow
For Metro Canada

Filmmaker Sarah Kapoor gave her mom a mother's day gift she'll never forget — she cast her in a movie about motherhood.

"Well, I didn't have to pay her," laughed the actor-director about working alongside her mom in the new comedy The Bad Mother. "That was probably the riskiest casting decision of all but we wanted to make the movie (and) it was a way to skip the acting costs and start filming right away."

Kapoor's benevolence wasn't just limited to her mother either. In fact, the film experience extended to the whole family as her husband and kids also appear in the movie of a mom so fed up with an oppressive work-life balance that she drafts up a rant that accidentally goes viral — sending her situation into chaos.

"For women who need and want to work, there's so many obstacles and if you choose to be a stay-at-home mother, you're undervalued," said Kapoor about the spark that ignited her cinematic ode to motherhood. "There's an abundance of incredible research that supports these ideas but there was no mainstream, accessible movie about it. So we took the field of dreams approach and (thought) build it and they will come."

FAMILY BUSINESS

Gwyneth Paltrow and Blythe Danner: The mother-daughter duo paired up in a 2003 acclaimed biopic about poet Sylvia Plath, simply titled Sylvia.

Dakota Johnson and Melanie Griffith: Before she was turning Fifty Shades of Grey, Dakota Johnson made her debut going Crazy In Alabama — her mom's 1999 crime comedy.

Meryl Streep and Mamie Gummer: This famous mom-daughter combo has teamed up three times — most recently in 2015's rock n' roll comedy Ricki and the Flash.

A working mother of two herself, Kapoor insists that the main character she portrays may not be quite true-to-life, but she's a definitely a composite of truth.

"Certainly it's inspired by feelings that I've had. The character Tara is an alternate version of myself," said Kapoor, adding the story's broader message about family may be more profound. "It's about women and mothers for sure, but when you watch the movie, its really about that struggle that impacts the whole family — it's hard on dads too when work-culture demands an enormous amount of loyalty."

A poignant topic that could've easily been dealt with a heavy hand, Kapoor made sure to give the social issue a lift of levity.

"Imagine pitching a movie on work-life balance and child care — who's going to go for that?" said Kapoor. "But if you make it and it's funny and endearing — well, the response has been wonderful.

The Bad Mother is available online at badmothermovie.com

YOUR GUIDE TO CAPTAIN AMERICA'S UNIVERSE OF SUPERHEROES

With teams of Marvel superheroes battling each other on the big-screen this weekend, it's hard to keep up with just who's fighting who in Captain America: Civil War. For passionate but perplexed moviegoers, we boil down the blitzkrieg with our Civil War Glossary. **STEVE GOW/FOR METRO**

TEAM CAPTAIN AMERICA

The Falcon Anthony Mackie

Captain America's perennial sidekick, The Falcon takes up with his super-pal in the battle against government regulation of superheroes. A former para-trooper, he uses a specialized winged jetpack to fly like, well, a falcon. An Avengers recruit, he's also responsible for bringing Ant-Man into the fold.

Ant-Man Paul Rudd

After uncovering an incredible suit that enables him to shrink to the size of a bug, Ant-Man now lends his shape-shifting wardrobe to Captain America's fight. The truth is, in the comic book version, Ant-Man was killed off prior to the events of Marvel's Civil War.

Bucky Barnes Sebastian Stan

Introduced to filmgoers as the Winter Soldier in the previous Captain America movie, the now-brainwashed Bucky sides with his old friend. Although he has no superpowers, Barnes is an Olympic-class athlete so skilled in combat he actually took over as Captain America following the Civil War-years in the comic universe.

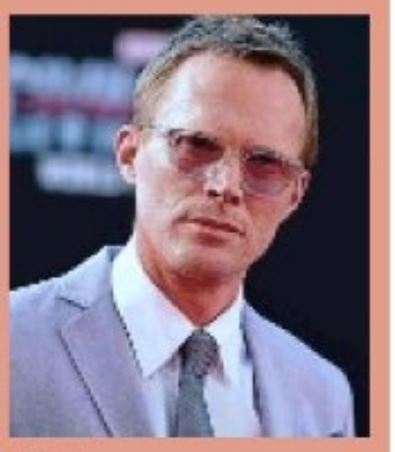
TEAM IRON MAN

Black Widow Scarlett Johansson

Torn between teammates, the Avengers enemy-turned-member ultimately chooses Iron Man's pro-stance on government supervision of heroes. A martial-arts master armed with an electroshock weapon called the Widow's Bite, the one-time assassin has a big role to play.

Black Panther Chadwick Boseman

He'll soon have his own movie but first Black Panther has to partake in a little Civil War. He chose Iron Man's side after the African crown prince suspects Bucky Barnes is responsible for his father's assassination. A combatant with acrobatic skills, Black Panther is further favoured by a special suit.



Vision Paul Bettany

Not your average superhero, Vision was an evil synthetic humanoid that was reprogrammed by Tony Stark in Avengers: Age of Ultron. Naturally, he's taking Iron Man's side and lucky for him – Vision can control his density and even partially materialize within other people, which presumably really hurts.

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BEST OF THE REST

The other faces of Captain America

War Machine (Don Cheadle): Longtime pals with Tony Stark, War Machine possesses a heavily-armed suit not unlike Iron Man's.

Hawkeye (Jeremy Renner): Formerly of The Avengers, the expert archer comes out of retirement for Captain America.

Spider-Man (Tom Holland): Who's side is Spidey on? We won't say but he does make an appearance before his latest adventure hits screens next summer.

Scarlet Witch (Elizabeth Olsen): A Captain America ally, the Avenger has hypnotic and telekinesis powers.

STEVE GOW/METRO

Brothers from other mothers

INTERVIEW

Captain America directors on sibling conflict

Directors Joe and Anthony Russo identify with the struggles of surrogate brothers in Captain America: Civil War. GETTY IMAGES

Some heroes are a little too super. Superman can sense Lois Lane is in trouble and fly from Metropolis to Africa in literally a second? It's enough to make you root for Lex Luthor.

But Captain America, as scripted and shot by brothers Anthony and Joe Russo, isn't the kind of hero who can, say, yank a helicopter out of the sky without breaking a sweat.

"If the audience doesn't feel like there are limits that the character can reach both emotionally and physically, then the stakes of the drama fall apart," says Anthony Russo. "You see Cap get hurt. It's hard for him to get up sometimes."

It's this sense of superlogic that makes the billed battle between Captain America and Iron Man in Captain America: Civil War such a satisfying slugfest. The fallout follows United Nations pressure for the Avengers to abide by government sanctions. Iron Man vocally agrees while Captain America hesitates, finding a new bond with Bucky Barnes, the brainwashed "Winter Soldier" he grew up with.

Over the phone from L.A., Anthony and Joe Russo delved into Cap's family feud, reintroducing Spider-Man, and helming the biggest Marvel movie yet: the two-part Avengers: Infinity War.

Being brothers making a film about surrogate brotherhood, did you bring a personal perspective to this project?

Joe Russo: Without question it is something that we related to. In Civil War we felt that we had a really interesting conflict between Cap's old family and his new family, the Avengers, that we could mine. The last remaining piece of his past, his best friend and his brother (Bucky Barnes), still exists in a very complicated way.

It was exciting to see Tom Holland as Spider-Man. He has amazing chemistry with Robert Downey Jr. as Iron Man. Why were they put together?

Anthony Russo: We knew that bringing a younger character into the universe would diversify it and give us another tone to play with. It felt like the best person to mentor that character would be Tony. It would be a fun dynamic that we could play on, Tony's crass pragmatism butting up against this wide-eyed kid's vulnerability.

You've said Infinity War will have 67 characters. Is that a real number or a joke number?

JR: It was a bit of a joke, and also real. It's true that we did have that number of characters. What we do is we sit in a writing room with (screenwriters) Christopher Markus and Stephen McFeely and talk about story for months and we do put a lot of stuff on the walls to help us track through different ideas. It is true that we had that number of characters on the wall.

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JACQUES AUDIARD

Dheepan is a timely refugee thriller

French director Jacques Audiard is a curious combination of art-house auteur and genre filmmaker, a brazen showman and gritty naturalist. He makes tender and brutal movies that recast themselves as they twist their way toward unpredictable finales. To suit tales of transformation (his specialty), he switches genres mid-movie like a character changing wardrobe.

In Dheepan, which won the Palme d'Or at the Cannes Film Festival last year, he travels from war movie to migrant drama to film noir, adding an atypically happy ending to boot. Audiard's restless shifts can be jarring, but the intensity of his film doesn't waver; the power of Dheepan is in its volatility.

It begins in fire. Fleeting scenes capture a burning Sri Lankan village in the bloody, disorienting aftermath of civil war. To gain asylum, a rebel fighter (played by Jesuthasan Antonythasan, himself a former Tamil Tiger child soldier turned acclaimed writer in France) who lost his family in the war cobbles together a pseudo family.

At a refugee camp, he picks a woman, Yalini (Kalieaswari Srinivasan) and an orphaned nine-year-old girl, Illayaal (Claudine Vinasithamby) to pose as his family. Dheepan becomes his new name, taking the identity and passport of a dead man.

Borders change, but the threat of violence merely mutates. Placed in a tenement block in Paris' banlieues, Dheepan warily eyes the drug-dealing gang members that patrol the apartment building roofs and clog the stairwells.

He gains a foothold as a caretaker of the tenement and Yalini, slower to adjust, finds a job caring for the father of an imprisoned gang lieutenant. They tersely, awkwardly begin becoming more authentically a family. But pressure around them is gradually growing, not just in altercations with the gang but as Dheepan's soldier past catches up with him through other Sri Lankan refugees.

It goes without saying that a film about the dislocation and confusion of refugees in poor European neighbourhoods is strikingly timely. The film has undeniable political relevance to France's immigration policies, but it isn't a social issues film.

Audiard has said Dheepan was inspired by Sam Peckinpah's Straw Dogs and his focus on Sri Lankan immigrants was chosen largely for narrative purposes. But the movie is deeply invested in understanding the lives of migrants trying to re-calibrate on the margins of a foreign society.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Kalieaswari Srinivasan, left, and Vincent Rottiers in a scene from Dheepan. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Raising Expectations is easy for Molly Ringwald

INTERVIEW

Former Brat Packer talks new series, handling fame

Molly Ringwald stars in the new Family Channel series Raising Expectations. NATHAN DENETTE/ THE CANADIAN PRESS

The first episode of Molly Ringwald's new family series Raising Expectations touches on an issue she's deftly handled throughout her career: the perils of fame.

Airing Sunday on Family Channel, the comedy series premiere sees her character — a high-profile child psychologist, author and mother of five — recounting one of her husband's tall tales at a conference. When the talk is posted online, it draws a flurry of accusations that the father (played by Jason Priestley) is lying and that the family isn't as perfect as it seems.

Ringwald is on Twitter but says she doesn't pay much attention to any online criticism she may receive. And she doesn't read reviews.

"It's a decision that I made when I was 19 years old," says the former Breakfast Club star.

"I think I read something that was just incredibly hurtful and unhelpful to me and so I thought, 'This doesn't really help, so why read it?'"

Ringwald says the hurtful review made it "hard to go to work the next day," so she "just made this decision not to read reviews."

"I made a decision that I would compile them and save them, and then one day when I wrote my memoirs, when I was 90 years old or whatever, that I would read them and then it ... wouldn't really bother me that much."

Ringwald says she feels she's dealt with being in the public eye "pretty well."

In 1992, after starring in seminal John Hughes films like Sixteen Candles, The Breakfast Club and Pretty in Pink, the member of the so-called Brat Pack group of young actors moved to France to flee the glare of Hollywood.

"I didn't know that I was doing it for that reason," she says. "At the time, it was really more instinctive. I just knew that I was happy there and that I had been working for a long time.

"I also knew that if I was ever going to do something like that, that was the time to do it. I didn't have any kids, I wasn't married, there was nothing that was really inspiring me where I was living in California, so I just thought, 'Let me do this.'

Ringwald continued to act in both France and the U.S., and in 2008, she landed a steady role in the teen drama series The Secret Life of the American Teenager.

She also started a family and side careers as a jazz singer and a writer (she's published a novel, a book of essays, an advice column and wants to pen a screenplay).

Ringwald and Priestley, Canadian star of the hit 1990s series Beverly Hills, 90210, connected over their early-life stardom.

"We're also people who have gone on and we've evolved and have built on this early success that we had. So I think that's definitely something we share. We don't spend a ton of time talking about that, there are too many other fun things to talk about, but we definitely get along."

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In The Shadow of the Hill director Dan Jackson has been documenting the lives of people in Rio's slums since 2012.
THE CANADIAN PRESS

The missing people of Rio

INVESTIGATION

Doc examines disappearance of thousands from slums

As Rio de Janeiro prepares to welcome the world for the Summer Olympics, a new documentary is looking beyond the glitz of the Games to cast light on the dark side of Brazil's second largest city.

In the Shadow of the Hill, which screens Friday at the Hot-Docs festival in Toronto, turns its lens on the residents of Rocinha, the largest slum or "favela" in Brazil.

The densely populated community is estimated to be home to anywhere between 70,000 and 300,000 people, and is located on a mountainside between two of Rio's wealthiest neighbourhoods.

Ahead of the 2014 World Cup and the 2016 Olympics, the Brazilian government introduced a series of "pacification" programs designed to reclaim territories controlled by armed drug traffickers.

Australian filmmaker Dan Jackson arrived in Rocinha in 2012 and started documenting the lives of the residents. The third time he returned to the favela was the same day tragedy occurred: Amarildo de Souza disappeared.

The local bricklayer had last been seen on June 14, 2013, being picked up by police for questioning. Police maintained he left the station alive. His family believed he had been tortured and killed by law enforcement.

"Before the case of Amarildo, there were 22 cases that we officially know of in Rocinha about the police torturing residents to obtain information," said Jackson in an interview.

"They went in front of the courtroom, in front of a judge, and the judge threw it out because they're poor black favela residents."

The mysterious circumstances surrounding de Souza's disappearance soon gained attention beyond Brazil's borders. In The Shadow of the Hill also examines the relationship between favela residents and the police, and shows the efforts of community members and activists to maintain hope and seek justice.

According to the film, about 38,000 people have disappeared in Rio between 2007 and 2013, the vast majority being black males from the favelas. The documentary also includes interviews with de Souza's family members, community residents and lawyer and human rights activist Joao Tancredo. According to Tancredo, in the last decade, about 10,000 forced disappearances in Rio alone are under suspicion of police involvement.

"If you look at a map of all the pacified communities in Rio, they have an inherent link to either the World Cup or the Olympics in terms of infrastructure they planned on building, in terms of public access highways," said Jackson. "In my mind, there is an absolutely indelible link between the two."
THE CANADIAN PRESS

SOCIAL WORK

Glover to receive human rights award

Actor Danny Glover will receive a human rights award at a historic site in the Adirondacks honouring abolitionist John Brown.

The first Spirit of John Brown Freedom Awards will be presented Saturday at the John Brown Farm State Historic Site near Lake Placid.

Organizers said Glover is expected to attend.

Other recipients are Albany civil rights leader Alice Green and the late Brother Yusuf Abdul-Wasi Burgess, a youth advocate.

Glover is a long-time political activist for humanitarian causes. He's known for leading roles in the Lethal Weapon films, The Color Purple and Angels in the Outfield as well as many other movies and television shows.

John Brown was hanged in 1859 for trying to start an armed slave revolt with a raid on a U.S. arsenal in Harpers Ferry, Virginia. He's buried outside Lake Placid.
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Danny Glover is a long-time political activist for humanitarian causes. GETTY IMAGES

Experience propels Reiner's new film

NEW RELEASE

Movie explores teenage boy's issues with drugs, rehab

"I maybe didn't handle it the best way," said Rob Reiner of his son's struggles with drugs.

It's a story that stayed out of the tabloids while it was happening, but by the time Nick Reiner was 18 years old, he had already cycled in and out of nine treatment facilities with bouts of homelessness and relapses in between.

"I listened to a lot of people who had a desk and a diploma," Rob Reiner said. "I didn't really think about my kid and what he needed."

Seated in a leather armchair in a cozy corner of his West Hollywood office on a recent afternoon, Rob Reiner spoke candidly about that difficult time.

He's had a few years now to process what he and his family went through.

Now, Rob and Nick Reiner explore the ordeal in the semi-autobiographical film Being Charlie, out in limited release Friday.

The idea for a film had crossed Rob Reiner's mind but for many reasons it wasn't something he could handle in the moment. Unbeknownst to him, his son had been working on something about the absurdities of his experience with a friend, Matt Elisofon, who he met at a treatment centre.

With Rob Reiner's eventual guidance, the two friends' script evolved from a half-hour rehab comedy into Being Charlie, a more dramatic and truthful rendering of a teenage boy's issues with drugs, rehab and a famous father that takes into account the parents' side of things, too. Jurassic World's Nick Robinson stars as the disaffected, searching kid at the centre.

Being Charlie is not solely Nick and Rob Reiner's story, but there are details scattered throughout. In the film, the father, a movie star with political ambitions played by Cary Elwes (working with Rob Reiner for the first time since The Princess Bride) says the thing about desks and diplomas, for instance. The ending, too, changed repeatedly during production as the Reiners' relationship evolved.

"It forced us to understand ourselves better than we had. I told Nick while we were making it, I said, 'you know it doesn't matter, whatever happens to this thing, we won already. This has already been good.' We've worked through a lot of stuff," Rob Reiner said.

> **We didn't go into it thinking this is going to be therapeutic or bring us closer, but it did come out that way.**
> Rob Reiner

It's a reflective time for Rob Reiner, who just turned 69 in March but is already saying he's "almost 70." While he's still "Meathead" from TV's All In the Family to many boomers, younger generations see him more as the director of a handful of now-classic movies.

The offices of his Castle Rock independent production company are inhabited by posters, photos and trinkets from his half century in the business, like a worn scrapbook of photos from "The Princess Bride" casually displayed on the coffee table.

"You live a life and you start to think, what are the things you've thought about over the course of your life? If you still have the energy and the ability to do it, then you find ways to do it as long as you can do it," Rob Reiner said. "I mean, look at Clint Eastwood!"

And he's staying active in the industry, even if the landscape of how films get made has changed drastically.

"I made a lot of films at Castle Rock because we financed them. We didn't have to go to anybody. In all the films I've made and all the films that Castle Rock has made —it's probably 125 — not one of them would get made at a studio today. None of them," Rob Reiner said. "Even the big hits like A Few Good Men and City Slickers, they just wouldn't get made. I was lucky to have a situation where I could do the things I wanted." THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Rob Reiner p has always had an affinity for the father-son story and has explored the theme and his own life in films like Stand By Me and A Few Good Men, but none have come so close as Being Charlie, loosely based on his son Nick Reiner's struggles with drugs. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Dark superhero role a dream come true: Ritter

NETFLIX

Jessica Jones star was quick to seize part in 'gritty' series

Krysten Ritter plays the titular private eye in **Netflix's Jessica Jones.** HANDOUT

The star of Netflix hit Jessica Jones said Tuesday she knew she had found her dream job even before she read for the role of the titular superhero sleuth.

Krysten Ritter, 34, has won plaudits for her performance as a private investigator with superpowers in the hard-hitting Marvel television adaptation, hotly tipped to win big at the Emmy Awards in September.

"This was always meant to be this dark, gritty, grounded psychological character study," she told the audience at a screening and panel discussion in Hollywood on Tuesday.

"So at that point I'm like 'Where do I sign? Give it to me.' And then Jeph (Loeb, executive producer) locked me in a room and took away my cellphone and I read the script and every page just got better.

"It was like everything I'd always dreamed to do, from walking around looking cool to doing these cool action sequences to having this really vulnerable, heavy dramatic work."

Jessica Jones is the second Marvel television conversion after Daredevil to form part of a "groundbreaking deal" with Netflix, which committed in 2013 to four 13-episode series culminating in a miniseries "programming event."

Ritter's co-star Mike Colter, 39, who plays Jessica's love interest, is getting his own spin-off series, Luke Cage, which is due to air later this year.

> **I read the script and every page just got better.**
> Krysten Ritter

The pair are due to team up with Charlie Cox, the titular character in Daredevil, and Finn Jones, who will portray Iron Fist, in ensemble show The Defenders at a date yet to be announced.

Cast members Rachael Taylor, 31, and Carrie-Anne Moss, best known for her role as Trinity in The Matrix, were also at the screening, with series villain David Tennant beamed into the Paramount Pictures studio from his office in Britain via Skype.

Tennant, known worldwide as the Tenth Doctor in long-running BBC sci-fi drama Doctor Who, recalled initially seeing the part of bad guy Kilgrave in Jessica Jones as "a gamble."

"You just read the script and you go 'Well writing isn't this good normally — these scripts are just perfection.' So I just thought this is a gamble worth taking." AFP

VIDEO STREAMING

Hulu to test out live TV, documentaries

Video streaming service Hulu on Wednesday announced that it will be testing out live broadcasting in 2017 and will be screening its first exclusive documentary about The Beatles later this year.

Hulu now has 12 million U.S. subscribers — a 30% jump over the past 12 months — and has a range of innovative ideas to hold on to existing customers as well as attracting new users.

"Over the past year, we've propelled Hulu by adding an extraordinary array of original series, hit broadcast and cable shows and blockbuster movies to our content portfolio," said Hulu CEO Mike Hopkins. "In 2016, we're going even bigger and bolder. We'll expand our offering with more premium content and brand new ad measurement products that will continue to make Hulu the leader in choice for seamless entertainment and advertising experiences."

Chief among them in the short term will be a move into documentaries, starting with the premiere of Ron Howard's film about the early years of pop music phenomenon The Beatles. RELAXNEWS

The Beatles: Eight Days a Week, directed by Ron Howard, will track the band's rise from obscurity to the cusp of global stardom. AFP

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The pros and cons of double vision

ANALYSIS

It takes a special pair of people to film together

Daniel Kwan and Daniel Scheinert on the set of Swiss Army Man. PHOTO BY JOYCE KIM, COURTESY OF A24

Identical twins Jennifer and Sylvia Soska complement each other's talents when it comes to filmmaking. CONTRIBUTED

On set, Captain America: Civil War co-directors Anthony and Joe Russo do almost everything together. "We don't really have divided roles," says Anthony over the phone from L.A. "We just have a non-stop dialogue and move through the entire process with one another."

When initiating new actors on set, their solidarity is unshakable. "We will make sure there is a very clear singular voice coming at them so they don't get confused," he continues. "But after we work with people for a long time we will invite them into our collaborative process."

The Russo brothers, Marvel's reigning MVPs (next up they'll tackle the massive two-part Avengers' sequel Infinity War), are the rare example of superstar co-directors. While the major names come quickly to mind — siblings such as the Cohens and Wachowskis or intertwined collaborators such as South Park's Trey Parker and Matt Stone or The Lego Movie's Phil Lord and Christopher Miller — the reality is few partnerships survive the transition to feature films.

"A lot of other people were doing it in the music video and commercial world," says Dan Kwan, who along with his collaborator Daniel Scheinert, works under the moniker DANIELS. "They rarely make it out of that."

> **By the time we shoot it, we barely talk on set because we both know exactly what the game plan is.** Dan Kwan on his directing partnership with Daniel Scheinert

The Daniels went from making memorable music videos such as DJ Snake's Turn Down For What to sharing the Directing Award at Sundance for their feature film debut Swiss Army Man (best known online as "Daniel Radcliffe's farting corpse movie"). The surreal indie comedy about a suicidal castaway and his friendship with a corpse opens in Toronto on June 24.

On set, Dan Kwan is more likely to be found behind the camera while Daniel Scheinert is interacting with actors, though they are usually so clear on their vision that they can flip back and forth. "By the time we shoot it, we barely talk on set because we both know exactly what the game plan is," says Kwan.

Cult horror directors Jennifer and Sylvia Soska, identical twins from Vancouver whose next project is a remake of David Cronenberg's 1977 body-horror classic Rabid, similarly split the responsibilities. Jennifer's more drawn to the prosthetics and production design while Sylvia is more inspired by camera angles and lighting. "Making a movie, it's so many balls in the air, but if you have two jugglers, you drop a lot less balls," Sylvia says.

If there's a downside, it comes out during salary negotiations. "No one wants to pay us as two individuals although they expect us to each do double the work," Jennifer says.

Daniel Scheinert says the Director's Guild of America has reduced the number of potential partnerships by only allowing studios to hire one director unless they are formally recognized as a duo. Scheinert and Kwan had to submit an essay to earn their co-director credit on Swiss Army Man. The goal is to stop studios from hiring and firing directors throughout a project. "It feels odd nowadays knowing that there are more and more duos happening," Kwan says of the guidelines.

In Canada, the Director's Guild of Canada permits directors to share credit, something that Alejandra Sosa, National Communications Director for the DGC, says has been happening more frequently in recent years.

Scheinert suspects there are even more partnerships at play in the industry then are formally recognized.

"I feel like half the directors that are credited as solo directors are secretly co-directing with their screenwriting partner or their producing partner," he says.

"The lines that are drawn when you watch the finishing credits of a movie are not nearly that black and white."

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Cat got Boseman's tongue on Black Panther details

Chadwick Boseman joins the Marvel universe as Black Panther in Captain America: Civil War. COURTESY MARVEL

MOVIES

Actor says he discovered the superhero in university days

Chadwick Boseman joins the Marvel universe as Black Panther in Captain America: Civil War, but this isn't his first time playing a superhero.

His breakthrough role was as Jackie Robinson in the 2013 biopic, 42. The following year, he became James Brown in Get On Up. So stepping into a third super-powered part as Black Panther is nothing really new for the 39-year-old actor.

"Yeah, I would say that," said Boseman with an easy laugh that belies the sincerity and conviction with which he approaches his craft.

To play T'Challa, Black Panther's alter-ego and heir to the throne of the fictional African nation of Wakanda, the actor did more than read every Panther comic he could find. He also made several trips to the real continent of Africa, and even took a role in a small film so he could play a South African character.

"You know how comedians, before they do their big HBO standup show, they do the Comedy Store or a smaller venue?" Boseman asked. "To me, this was an independent film, so it was a chance to play a character from the continent of Africa before doing Black Panther."

Boseman first discovered the Black Panther comic books while a student at Howard University, and he wanted to play the character before any film project was announced.

That worked out perfectly for Marvel. Studio chief Kevin Feige said Boseman was their first choice for the role.

"He is an incredibly talented actor who possesses all of the qualities that we wanted to inject into the character," Feige said. "We've been seeding the notion of the Black Panther and the nation of Wakanda all the way back to Iron Man 2, so it really felt like the time was right to bring in a character that had his own agenda."

There's ... just as much spectacle in the spoken word as there is in the physical body. The tongue is a muscle, too.
Chadwick Boseman

In Captain America: Civil War, T'Challa/Black Panther stands apart from the other Avengers as they argue over whether to accept government oversight. He can't be distracted or dissuaded from his own personal mission.

Marvel's first black superhero was introduced in comic books in 1966, but Captain America: Civil War marks his cinematic debut. Black Panther will headline his own Marvel movie in 2018, but the cat has Boseman's tongue when it comes to spilling details about it.

He won't say if the script will be based on the new Black Panther comic-book series by celebrated journalist and author Ta-Nehisi Coates, which debuted last month. Creed and Fruitvale Station writer-director Ryan Coogler is confirmed to direct the film.

Boseman is willing to share what he put into creating the character for the screen in Civil War, from working with two dialect coaches on T'Challa's Wakandan accent to studying various martial arts for Panther's stealthy, catlike fighting style.

He embraces the physicality of the role as a means of understanding it. "The physical part is what makes it fun for me and helps me get inside the characters," he said. "The spirit of the character is going to begin to come out."

Boseman trained on the baseball field to play Jackie Robinson and danced eight hours a day to portray James Brown. For the Panther role, he practised capoeira, karate, kung-Fu and jiu-jitsu.

"Part of it with Panther is there's an unpredictability," he said.

Boseman's next job is decidedly less physical but no less demanding — he's playing Thurgood Marshall in an upcoming biopic of the first black Supreme Court justice. Still, Boseman plans to use his body. He'll lose 25 Panther pounds to play the legal superhero, and exercise his powers of speech.

"There's just as much gymnastics, just as much spectacle in the spoken word as there is in the physical body. The tongue is a muscle, too," Boseman said. "It really doesn't matter whether I'm running or doing capoeira or I'm speaking long speeches, it's an exercise regardless."

And it's something he's been practising and loving since he was a kid.

"We've all played superheroes before," he said with a laugh. "What you were doing as a kid, the fun of it was if you actually had a suit, you would use it, and you got up and you did the movements. You took on the voice. You took on all of it. So it's not really different here. It's just bigger."

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Kimye latest names to visit Havana

CELEBRITIES

Kanye and Kim visit hot spots in antique pink convertible

Rap superstar Kanye West, his wife Kim Kardashian and members of her reality-show-star family are the latest celebrities to visit Havana.

They stopped at the Museum of Rum on Wednesday, stepping out of a hot-pink antique American convertible as they snapped selfies and were recorded by a television crew following them around.

Cuba has seen a stream of celebrities since the declaration of détente with the U.S. in December 2014.

West and the Kardashians are some of the most famous entertainment figures to visit the island, joining a small class of ultra-famous visitors that includes the Rolling Stones. U.S. President Barack Obama came in March, Chanel debuted its 2016 "cruise" line Tuesday night and the latest installment of the Fast and Furious action movie franchise is filming here now. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Kim Kardashian, centre in white, enters the Havana Club Rum Museum in Cuba on Wednesday. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Kim Kardashian takes a selfie as she rides on a classic car next to husband Kanye West in Havana, Cuba, on Wednesday. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

MUSIC & POLITICS

Stones dump on Trump

The Rolling Stones have become the latest musicians to ask U.S. Republican presumptive presidential nominee Donald Trump to stop using their songs in his campaign events.

"The Rolling Stones have never given permission to the Trump campaign to use their songs and have requested that they cease all use immediately," the rockers said in a statement.

Trump has used hits including You Can't Always Get What You Want and Start Me Up to fire up his supporters at campaign events.

The Stones join a growing number of musicians who have expressed anger at Trump's use of their music at rallies, which have repeatedly been marred by violence. Everlast last month demanded he stop playing Jump Around by the rapper's former band House of Pain, while Neil Young, R.E.M. and Adele have also spoken out. AFP

The Rolling Stones are the latest musicians to demand Trump stop using their music at his rallies. ROLLING STONES

MUSIC BRIEFS

Stefani, Clooney, Roberts get in on carpool karoke

Gwen Stefani got a little help from George Clooney and Julia Roberts in Late Late Show host James Corden's latest Carpool Karaoke segment.

In the segment that aired early Thursday, Stefani and Corden take on a few of the former No Doubt singer's classics before pulling over their SUV under the guise of needing a few more passengers to travel in a carpool lane. Corden calls up Clooney, who shows up and dials Roberts.

The foursome is then shown riding around belting out Stefani's Hollaback Girl and Queen's We Are The Champions.

Clooney and Roberts are co-starring in Money Monster, which opens later this month.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

French Montana is known for his hits Pop That and Ain't Worried About Nothin.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

French Montana signs big deal with Epic Records

MUSIC BUSINESS

Rapper will remain under Bad Boy imprint

Rapper French Montana has signed with Bad Boy Entertainment and Epic Records, the music companies said on Thursday.

The move means the rapper has left Interscope Records, but will remain under Sean "Puff Daddy" Combs' Bad Boy imprint.

Combs is the founder of Bad Boy and L.A. Reid is the chairman and CEO of Epic Records, a division of Sony Music Entertainment. Last year, both companies signed a deal to partner with each other so Epic could provide Bad Boy music artists with promotion, marketing, sales and distribution.

"This means everything to me," said Montana, a Moroccan-born rapper. "It's a new home. A new deal. A new structure. A new family. New money. ... As far as Puff and L.A. Reid, I feel like they are the last of a dying breed of people who still care about music. I respect everything they do."

Montana joins a roster of rap stars at Epic that includes Rick Ross, who was an executive producer on Montana's first album for the label, Future, Yo Gotti and DJ Khaled. He calls the collection of label mates the "Dream Team." Combs' son Christian Combs signed with Bad Boy and Epic this year.

"French Montana is a proven hit maker," Combs said in a statement. "When I first heard him, I knew he had that special Bad Boy sound and I believed in his potential."

While Montana, an ex-boyfriend of Khloe Kardashian, debuts his new venture with Bad Boy and Epic, he'll be doing the same with his new video, Figure It Out, featuring Kanye West and Nas. The song was introduced in February on Montana's mixtape Wave Gods, but Thursday marks the first time the song is available for purchase or streaming.

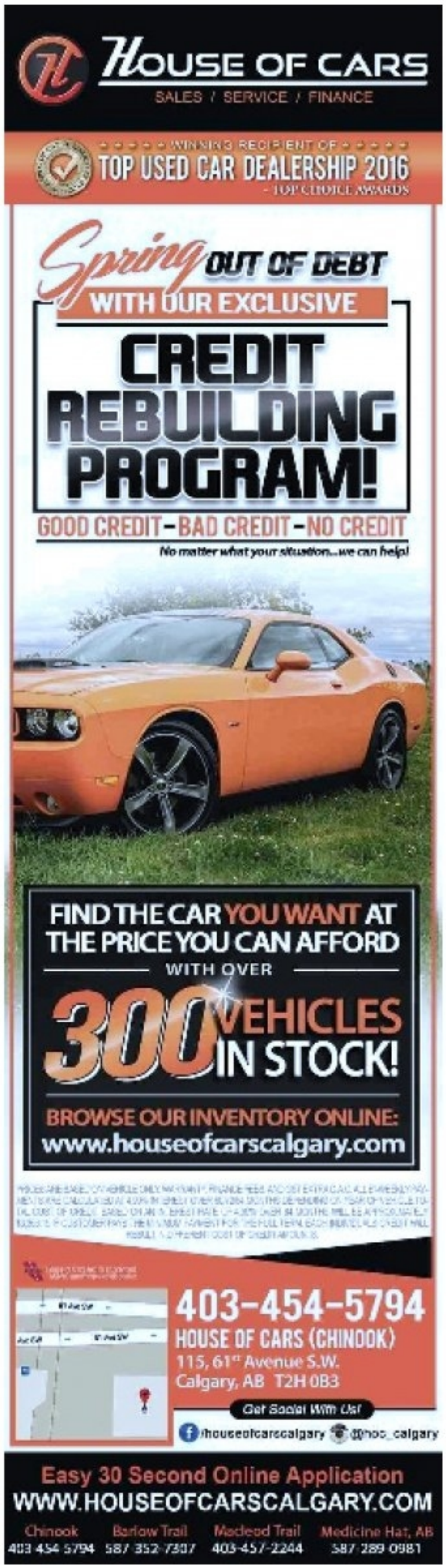
In 2013, Montana released his debut album, Excuse My French, led by the hits Pop That and Ain't Worried About Nothin.

The rapper said he plans to release his sophomore album and film Respect the Shooter later this year.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

"This means everything to me. It's a new home. A new deal. A new structure. A new family. New money."

French Montana on his new Epic Records deal



Britney Spears, 34, has apparently made no moves to lift a conservatorship that gives her father management control over her finances and career. JORDAN STRAUSS/INVISION/AP

Britney Spears ready to give you more

CONSERVATORSHIP

Singer's career flourishing as her dad keeps hold of finances

Since February 2008, Britney Spears' life has been tightly controlled by her father Jamie Spears and lawyer Andrew Wallet.

It was obvious why her family stepped in to help the 34-year-old pop star as she struggled publicly with health and behaviour issues — she shaved her head, appeared dishevelled in public and lost custody of her two sons with Kevin Federline.

But the storm has subsided and whatever undisclosed drug and mental health issues plagued her then seem to be controlled, argued the New York Times in a lengthy feature published online Wednesday.

Meanwhile, the court-approved conservatorship remains in place with Jamie managing her finances and career, and Britney has apparently made no moves to have it lifted.

$130K

The amount of money Britney Spears' father earns per year as her conservator.

There are many indications that things are going very well for the performer, whom Forbes named the fifth highest-earning female musician of 2015, ahead of Rihanna and Nicki Minaj. Some key takeaways from the article:

• She recently signed a two-year, $35-million contract to extend her residency at the Los Vegas Planet Hollywood Resort and Casino in a three-performances-a-week arrangement that allows lots of time to spend with her two children. She has, since the divorce, worked out visiting arrangements with Federline.

• Father Jamie earns $130,000 a year as her conservator.

• She is currently working on her ninth album, her first since 2013, and is set to debut the single "Make Me (Oooh)" at the Billboard Music Awards on May 22.

• She appears slim and healthy and is seen often with her children in Los Angeles.

• Besides her music, Spears earns money from selling memorabilia, lingerie and perfume — all of which are negotiated by her conservators.

Spears showed off her figure in her strappy monokini on Tuesday. INSTAGRAM

• She calmly weathered a court hearing this week surrounding a suit by "a former self-described manager" seeking compensation, a positive sign after her conservators successfully fought to keep her from testifying in prior lawsuits.

The conservatorship, brought in place when a person is unable to care for themselves, is revisited once a year. Given the success of the arrangement — and the lack of open criticism by the singer — it's possible Britney prefers to leave decision-making to others while she cares for her kids and career.

She's already had enough drama and stress for a lifetime.

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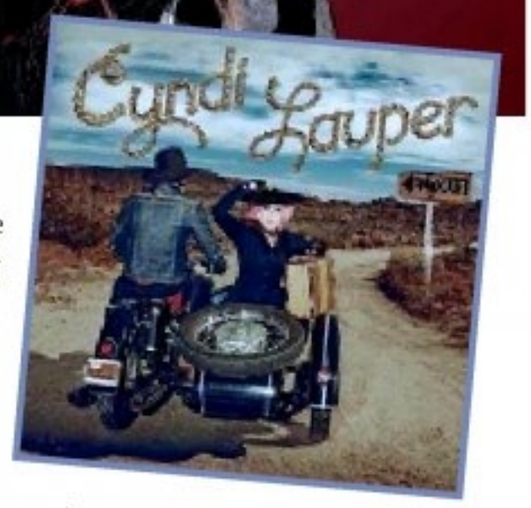
Cyndi Lauper shows her true Country colours

Cyndi Lauper poses in Nashville, Tenn., to promote her new country album, Detour, releasing on Friday. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



CROSSOVER

Singer releases her western album, Detour

Pop singer, songwriter and Broadway musical composer Cyndi Lauper added a little country twang to her signature Queens accent.

Her country and western covers album Detour, which is out on Friday, brings another unexpected twist to a career that has included music, theatre, television, movies, wrestling and activism.

A musical chameleon, she's won two Grammys, an Emmy and a Tony, but despite all the success, she said she's not as savvy at the art of business.

"Much to the chagrin of my family, I have not been the greatest businesswoman," Lauper said during an interview in Nashville, Tennessee."I was always art for art's sake. But you have to think of it like a business. It's art and commerce and somewhere in between you find the mix."

Her meandering path took her from Broadway where she wrote music for Kinky Boots , which won six Tony Awards, to Music City where the pink-haired 62-year-old singer recorded her latest album with guest vocals from Willie Nelson, Vince Gill, Alison Krauss and Emmylou Harris.

Together with producer Tony Brown, she worked with some of the city's best session musicians to craft a live sound that wasn't polished to perfection.

"I kept telling them, 'It has to be dirty.' Think sex," Lauper said. "So it was a country western theme, but there was always a stripper walking across the floor with a boa. Like a blues thing."

The songs are from different era of country music, as far back as the '40s, when country was heavily influenced by early rock 'n' roll and blues, or as Lauper said her record label head Seymour Stein put it, "before Elvis kicked the door down."

She covers songs made famous by Patsy Cline, Loretta Lynn, Wanda Jackson, George Jones, Dolly Parton and Marty Robbins.

To Lauper, the songs reminded her of being a kid in Queens watching cowboy shows on TV and listening to her aunt Gracie's transistor radio. The female stars of country music were like pop stars to a young Lauper.

"Loretta Lynn, you saw her on TV and you knew she wore a cowboy hat," Lauper said. "But she was a television star to us. As I got older, she sang 'The Pill' and I was like, 'Wow, she's a feminist, too."'

Gill, who sang the duet You're the Reason Our Kids Are Ugly with Lauper, said they gave a new twist to the classic originally sung by Lynn and Conway Twitty.

"It has this whole talking back and forth at the end of the record with the two of us and it sounds like her being from the Bronx and me being Joe Pesci," Gill said. "It's hysterical."

Early on in her career, she was in a rockabilly band, so it wasn't a stretch for her to include a song like Funnel of Love, to which she added a few well-placed high pitched yips. But other songs proved a bit harder for the Girls Just Want To Have Fun singer to record.

"When I first did Walking After Midnight, I sang it so darn low. I was like, 'I can't sing! What is wrong with me?"' she said. "But I realized that it had to be in my key. And don't go trying to reinvent the wheel."

She'll be performing the country songs, as well as her classic pop hits, on a tour that starts Monday at the Ryman Auditorium in Nashville.

"And I have an idea of how I am going to put a little country in all of some of the songs I will be singing," Lauper said. "You know, why not? What the heck. You live once." THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Much to the chagrin of my family, I have not been the greatest businesswoman.
Emmy, Tony and Grammy winning singer Cyndi Lauper

Daniels offers mea culpa to Penn

COURTS

Apology part of defamation settlement over abuse remarks

Empire co-creator Lee Daniels apologized to Sean Penn in a statement made public Wednesday as part of a confidential settlement in a defamation lawsuit over comments Daniels made comparing the actor to the show's star Terrence Howard, who's been repeatedly accused of domestic violence.

As part of the settlement, Daniels also agreed to make a donation to Penn's charity, J/P Haitian Relief Organization, which the actor created after Haiti was devastated by an earthquake in 2010. The sum was not disclosed.

"I am so sorry that I have hurt you Sean," Daniels said. "Domestic violence is a very serious issue. My comments were cavalier; it was not my intention to diminish the severity of the issue, but rather to express a view regarding the disparate treatment of men of colour in our national conversation."

Sean Penn sued Lee Daniels last fall after Daniels made remarks insinuating Penn had physically abused Madonna when they were married in the 1980s. GETTY IMAGES

Penn said he accepted Daniels' "heartfelt" apology and appreciated "the sincerity with which it was delivered."

He had sued in Manhattan civil court last fall, saying Daniels' statements were egregious and injured Penn's credibility and reputation personally and professionally and in his philanthropic activities. He had sought $10 million, though a jury would have to determine any damages.

Daniels' comments came during an interview with the entertainment publication The Hollywood Reporter about the second season of Empire.

"That poor boy (Terrence) ain't done nothing different than Marlon Brando or Sean Penn, and all of a sudden he's some ... demon," Daniels said then. "That's a sign of time, of race, of where we are right now in America."

Penn had been accused of violent behaviour before but denied decades-old allegations that he was abusive to ex-wife Madonna when they were married in the 1980s. Madonna supported Penn in the lawsuit, filing a sworn statement in December that Penn had never been physically abusive toward her and that "any report to the contrary is completely outrageous, malicious, reckless, and false."

Penn has won two best actor Oscars, for Mystic River in 2004 and Milk in 2009. His secret interview with Joaquin "El Chapo" Guzman while the convicted drug lord was on the lam was heavily criticized. Penn's article was published by Rolling Stone magazine in January, a day after Guzman was recaptured by Mexican authorities following his second brazen prison escape months earlier.

Daniels was nominated for two Oscars for his work on the film Precious, based on the novel Push by Sapphire, and has gone on to direct The Paperboy and The Butler. He created Fox's hit series Empire with The Butler co-writer Danny Strong.

Howard has been forced to publicly address domestic violence allegations, including during testimony in a Los Angeles courtroom in August, when he acknowledged he struck his first wife in 2001 but denied abusing ex-wife Michelle Ghent.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

REVEALING INTERVIEW

Woody Allen says he's made wife's life better

Woody Allen says in a revealing interview that he has made wife Soon-Yi Previn's life better and the controversy that surrounded the couple in the 1990s hasn't traumatized him.

Allen tells The Hollywood Reporter in an interview posted online Wednesday that the 45-year-old Previn had a difficult upbringing in South Korea before being adopted by Allen's former girlfriend Mia Farrow.

Allen says he has "been able to really make her life better" by providing her with "enormous opportunities."

He tells the magazine that she's "very sophisticated" now and has "become a different person."

The 80-year-old director adds that he stayed "immune" from the criticism surrounding the beginning of their relationship by continuing to work.

Allen's latest film, Cafe Society, is set to open at France's Cannes International Film Festival later this month.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Woody Allen and Soon-Yi Previn. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

GOSSIP BRIEFS

Teacher in hot water after showing students Human Centipede 2

A Tennessee teacher has been suspended after part of the gruesome horror film The Human Centipede 2: (Full Sequence) was played to a class of ninth- and 10th-graders.

News outlets report that a personnel file shows Jackson Central-Merry High School teacher Michelle Blankenship was suspended without pay April 22.

Superintendent Verna Ruffin says the district is investigating how and why the movie was shown April 20 to students under Blankenship's supervision. The film is unrated in the United States.

However the British Board of Film Classification gave the movie an 18 certificate, the rough equivalent in the United States of an NC-17 rating given to movies with a high level of sexual or violent content. Ruffin says it's unclear how much of the movie the students saw, or whether the movie was put on by a student or Blankenship.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Beckinsale is in love with her ex's girlfriend

LOVE & FRIENDSHIP

Kate gaga over Sarah Silverman at film premiere

Friendly exes are nothing new among Hollywood's consciously uncoupled, but Kate Beckinsale says her feelings run deep for ex-boyfriend, Michael Sheen, and his girlfriend, Sarah Silverman.

"Michael and I have obviously not been together for a very long time, what 16 years or 15 years, something like that? And we've always got on really well. So I'm always surprised when people find that surprising because it's quite well-established. It's just that I'm quite deeply in love with his girlfriend. So that's new," she joked during an interview Thursday in Los Angeles.

Beckinsale, Sheen and Silverman shared an emotional reunion at Tuesday's Los Angeles premiere of Beckinsale's new period comedy, Love & Friendship. The celebrity trio was all hugs and smiles as they greeted each other and posed for photos on the red carpet. Beckinsale wiped tears from Silverman's beaming face before the group headed into the screening.

"We just like each other. I always get really excited when I see Sarah. I forgot there was that many cameras there. But yeah, we had just been to see my daughter's school play about three days before so there's really no excuse for everyone getting over-excited like that," Beckinsale explained.

Kate Beckinsale poses at the L.A. premiere of Love & Friendship on Tuesday. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Beckinsale and Sheen have a 17-year-old daughter, Lily.

Love & Friendship, from writer-director Whit Stillman, was shot in Ireland and is set in the 18th century. Beckinsale's favourite part was the local lore surrounding U2's Bono.

"We shot in Dublin, which is a gorgeous and beautiful city and full of the most incredible people.

"And everybody's got a story about Bono, which I found fascinating.

"So you're going to a pub and someone will say 'let me tell you my story about' and then the driver would tell it and the man who cleaned out the trailers had a Bono story. Bono gets around apparently in Dublin! And everyone's got one, which I loved," she said.

Beckinsale stars as a recently widowed social climber with a delightfully devious partner in crime, played by Chloe Sevigny. It opens May 13.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

ALEX TREBEK

Canucks may get shot at Jeopardy again

Game show host Alex Trebek says it looks as if Canadians will soon be able to apply to compete on Jeopardy again.

Trebek, who has presided over the quiz show for more than 30 years, is in Ottawa to receive the key to the city and met Prime Minister Justin Trudeau briefly. The prime minister has praised Trebek's financial contributions to the University of Ottawa. The two also discussed a return of Canadians to Trebek's popular show. Changes in Canada's digital privacy laws last year caused problems over Internet applications, but Trebek says they are being ironed out.

Trudeau suggested the host had worked out a fix for the problem.

"I'm sure you've been grilled on that," Trudeau said.

"Well yes, because everyone blames us and I keep turning it around and saying ...."

Trudeau interrupted: "You're blaming me instead."

"Well not quite," Trebek said, adding that he has been told a solution is in the works.

The show's website says it cannot accept registration information from Canadians but "we are currently evaluating this matter."

Trebek was born in Sudbury, but attended university in Ottawa. Early in his career, he hosted a number of CBC television programs, including the high school quiz show Reach for the Top.

He moved to the United States in the 1970s and became an American citizen in 1998.

Ottawa Mayor Jim Watson, who presented the key to the city to Trebek, said he was being honoured for his "philanthropy and activism, his unrelenting commitment to higher education and his steadfast loyalty to his alma mater, the University of Ottawa."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Alex Trebek was in Ottawa this week to receive the key to the city. THE CANADIAN PRESS

GOSSIP BRIEFS

Modern Family plot twist actually an ad for Realtors

If Phil Dunphy's insistence that he's a Realtor and not a real estate agent on Modern Family this week seemed a little odd, be aware that ABC was paid to make that distinction. The plot twist was part of a new advertising campaign by the National Association of Realtors. In the episode that aired Wednesday, the Dunphy character twice makes the point that he's a Realtor. Dunphy wins a battle with Gloria Pritchett's nemesis by confronting her with insider knowledge gleaned from his profession: that there's been illegal construction on the woman's property, and her grandson is attending an out-of-district school.

The Realtors are touting their services over licensed agents who are not members of their association. The Realtors were given the chance to review what was written before the show aired, ABC said.

ABC would say how much the association paid the network for the placement.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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The Emerald Awards is the only award program of its kind in Canada to showcase environmental excellence in all sizes and across all sectors — from community leaders and start-ups to international oil and gas producers.

The Emerald Awards applaud dozens of environmental leaders and showcase projects that demonstrate environmental excellence, setting example for everyone across the province.

By celebrating excellence in environmental leadership, the Emerald Awards and the Alberta Emerald Foundation are raising the public's awareness about and around stewardship.

The 25th Annual Emerald Awards will be presented on June 8, 2016 at Telus Spark in Calgary. Meet three of the nominees.

ENERGY EFFICIENCY INNOVATION

Since 2008, the ConocoPhillips Canada Energy Efficiency Program has reduced the company's greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions by the equivalent of taking 98,000 cars the road off the road.

The program implements energy efficient technology at many well sites and facilities from northeastern British Columbia to southeastern Alberta.

"We're especially proud that this project demonstrates a tangible step that the oil and gas industry can take to make significant reductions in its GHG emissions profile," says Sean Hiebert, the company's team lead – WCBU emissions management engineering. "Collaboration is crucial to developing a 'made-in-Alberta' solution that identifies industrial energy efficiency opportunities and accelerates deployment of technology that can make an impact, and we seek to be a leading contributor to this effort."

The projects include capturing and using waste heat and normally-vented methane,

CONTRIBUTED

improving control of the air-fuel ratio of compressor station engines and replacing natural gas-driven pumps with solar-powered alternatives. In 2015, ConocoPhillips Canada held a workshop to share information with more than 200 companies, service providers, regulators and policy makers.

"By testing, deploying, and openly sharing the results of a comprehensive program that has resulted in significant GHG reductions, our Energy Efficiency team has instilled a culture of energy efficiency in the company, and helped expand the impact of this program throughout industry."

With help from a grant in 2011 from the Climate Change and Emissions Management Corporation (CCEMC), the program has completed more than 1,870 energy efficiency projects resulting in a cumulative emissions reduction of 470,000+ tonnes CO2e per year.

"ConocoPhillips Canada is honoured to be a finalist for this year's Emerald Awards," says Hiebert. "We view the Emerald Awards as this province's most prestigious annual awards program that recognizes a broad set of inspiring environmental initiatives, from large and small corporations, individuals, not-for-profit associations, community groups and governments."

Echohaven: Building a green community

"It is wonderful to have recognition of what we have struggled so many years to achieve," says Brian Taylor, one of visionaries behind Echohaven, a community of 25 homes in Calgary that aim to eliminate greenhouse gases (GHGs), and reduce electricity and city water use.

Six founding families have taken a former acreage in northwest Calgary's Rocky Ridge and turned it into a green community, with solar, environmentally improved, sustainable or net-zero energy (NZE) homes.

"Our shareholders have shown persistence and dedication over 15 years in the face of all sorts of opposition and adversity, from outright regulatory refusal of some proposed features to claims 'it can't be done,'" says Taylor.

But it could be done. By becoming their own developer, under the name Echo-Logic Land Corporation, the families were able to set architectural guidelines that are favourable to solar and sustainable housing.

So far, about half the houses have been built and they are "mostly achieving" the goal to eliminate GHG emissions and reduce by half the amount of electricity and city water used. Echohaven is also preserving the natural ponds, grades and most of the trees on the site. "We have achieved our aim of creating a green, sustainable--near zero carbon—housing development, in Alberta, even though on a small scale and only half built yet," says Taylor.

There is no gas service on site so all homes must use solar energy or electricity for heating, but their heating load is reduced by about 80 per cent with insulation, better windows and doors and ventilation. Echohaven is also incorporating ancient ideas such as orientating houses to maximize solar energy in the thoroughly modern community.

CONTRIBUTED

"The Emerald Awards further innovation in the province because it gives publicity to new ideas," says Taylor. "And it encourages individuals and organizations to do things that will make a difference to our quality of life."

25TH ANNUAL
EMERALD AWARDS
Recognizing and celebrating environmental excellence in Alberta.
Since 1992, the Alberta Emerald Foundation has showcased 280 recipients and over 760 finalists through the Emerald Awards.
This year, an independent panel of judges selected 32 examples of environmental innovation and leadership as our 2016 Emerald Awards Finalists.
The 25th Annual Emerald Awards will be announced on June 8, 2016 at Telus Spark in Calgary.
Learn about Alberta's EcoHeroes at emeraldfoundation.ca

Net Zero Energy: Building more eco-friendly homes

Mattamy Homes, North America's largest privately-owned homebuilder, designed five Net Zero Energy (NZE) homes — houses that produce as much energy as they consumes over the course of a year.

Owens Corning, a global company that develops and produces insulation, roofing, and fiberglass composites, partnered with Mattamy and four other home builders across Canada to take part in ecoENERGY Innovation Initiative (ecoEII). ecoEII is a federal government initiative that supports innovation in energy technology to produce and use energy in a cleaner and more efficient way.

Mattamy finished its first house in November, 2015 in Calgary's Cityscape community. "As the only builder in Western Canada selected to participate in this initiative, Mattamy is leading the way towards a more eco-friendly and sustainable future," says Warren Saunders, vice president, sales and marketing of Mattamy Homes. "The nomination supports our vision to demonstrate leadership in building energy-efficient and sustainable homes. It recognizes our culture of innovation.

Mattamy built two research homes to test the NZE building envelope and new building practices for the Cityscape development. The NZE homes were tailored for cold climate, doubling thermal performance with energy-efficient high-performance walls. The homebuilder also used an exterior air barrier and PassiveHaus levels of air-tightness, producing a home 70 per cent more energy efficient than a home built to code. Mattamy collaborated with SAIT Polytechnic's Green Building Technologies and SAIT students helped the builder develop a production-friendly way to build new NZE homes.

"As Canada's largest home builder we continue to demonstrate leadership in building energy-efficient and sustainable homes. We hope this commitment inspires other businesses to further innovation in Alberta," says Saunders. "We are proud of the contributions of our dedicated staff and project partners and that we are able to achieve this milestone of completion and certification using new advanced net zero applications."

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Alberta Emerald Foundation

25TH ANNUAL EMERALD AWARDS

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Learn more about these Albertan EcoHeroes at emeraldfoundation.ca

metro TRAVEL
Your essential daily news
Madagascar's first hot air balloon festival takes off

5 INCREDIBLE CANADIAN SNORKELLING EXPERIENCES

Snorkelling in tropical waters with pretty coral and colourful fish is nice, but considering the plight of the Canadian dollar, many of us are staying closer to home. Fortunately, Canada's oceans and rivers offer some unique snorkelling experiences of their own. Here are five incredible ideas to add to your bucket list.

MARK STACHIEW/FOR METRO

TRAVEL MANITOBA

1 Belugas in Manitoba

In the cold waters of Hudson Bay near Churchill, Man., visitors can get up close and personal with beluga whales. These beautiful white whales swim in small groups and are plentiful in the Canadian north. Wrapped in a thick wetsuit to keep warm, you plunge into the murky water to find yourself surrounded by belugas. The instant you submerge yourself, you are struck by the clamour of whistles and clicks as they constantly chatter with each other. Belugas seem to be as curious about us as we are about them, so don't be surprised if mother whales bring their babies up to take a closer look at you.

DESTINATION BC

2 Sea stars in British Columbia

In British Columbia's Desolation Sound Marine Provincial Park, you can snorkel with the stars — the sea stars, that is. In the park's warm, nutrient-rich waters, snorkellers can admire aquatic gardens of giant sunflower stars, purple stars, mottled stars, leather stars, blood stars and painted stars along with an abundance of other marine life. As a bonus, the area's fjords and mountains offer scenery that is as spectacular above water as it is below.

PARKS CANADA

3 Salmon in New Brunswick and British Columbia

Atlantic or Pacific salmon? No, it's not a menu choice at a restaurant. You can snorkel with these iconic fish on either of Canada's coasts. In British Columbia's Powell River, visitors can swim with the colourful fish from June to September as they return on their annual migration to their spawning grounds on Vancouver Island. In the east, in New Brunswick's Fundy National Park, you can team up with park scientists this September on the Upper Salmon River to count Atlantic salmon as they too head upstream to reproduce.

RICK STANLEY, OCEAN QUEST ADVENTURES

4 Seals in Quebec and B.C.

The first time you swim with seals you fully realize that humans are not really meant to be in the water. It's a good thing seals can't laugh, otherwise you'd know they were mocking you as they effortlessly swim around you while you fumble in your snorkelling gear in an attempt to keep up. Young seals, which are essentially puppies with fins, are especially fond of showing off. You can frolic with these fun creatures on the east coast in Forillon National Park in Quebec's Gaspé region or off of Vancouver Island near Nanaimo, B.C.

5 Humpback whales in Newfoundland

Whale watching from a boat is great, but swimming next to them in the water is so much better. You can do it in the waters off the east coast of the Avalon Peninsula in Newfoundland where humpback whales like to congregate in July and August. Swimming side by side with one of these humongous creatures is a life-changing experience. You will feel tiny by comparison and then you realize they aren't even the largest whales in the world.

RICK STANLEY, OCEAN QUEST ADVENTURES

WASHINGTON

Forget Capitol Hill, D.C.'s politicos make room for hipsters

Over the last decade, Washington's incumbent suit-and-tie scene has been upstaged by alternative, revitalized neighbourhoods filled with beer gardens, social sports, food trucks, locavore restaurants and artist cafés.

Not far from the National Mall and Capitol Hill, a dynamic group of chefs, brew masters, club owners and artists have cultivated a thriving nightlife — shaking the U.S. capital's staid reputation as a commuter town full of tourist traps and lobbyist-infested steak houses.

Case in point: Vendetta Bocce Bar & Tavern on H St. N.E. Even 15 years ago, the area east of Union Station had a reputation for seediness and crime. These days it's a prime destination for those looking for a little recreation with their recreational drinking. "When people think of D.C., they typically think of all the government offices and jobs — and people who like to work hard play hard," says Bryson Lefmann, Vendetta's events and marketing manager.

Known for its free indoor bocce courts, the bar's décor is a hipster dream house of vintage cameras, umbrellas, black-and-white family photos, and vintage Italian advertisements.

D.C. has a transient, young working population looking to be socially engaged, Lefmann adds, so "they come to our bar to do something fun." That same ethos applies to Vendetta's sister bar across the street, the H Street Country Club. Casey Hogan, the club's general manager, labels the whole gentrifying strip an "up-and-comer." His club's covered, rooftop patio plays off its name: at night, the lights flicker off the blue walls and ceiling like reflecting pool waves. But the biggest draw is indoor, nine-hole mini-golf. The brainchild of a local artist, the D.C.-themed course even attracts customers playing the part in plaid shorts and golf caps.

Chef Kyle Bailey's Birch & Barley is one of the hottest spots on the thriving 14th St. N.W., serving beers paired to menu items such as pan-fried sweetbread and roast pappardelle.

The New York kitchen vet says D.C.'s stable staple of government-related jobs makes it less risky to launch a restaurant. But expense-account restos have been usurped by multicultural cuisine, tasty street food and farm-to-table kitchens like Bailey's own.

The Birch & Barley's centrepiece is an organ-designed beer tap system, its large pipes also carrying draft through the ceiling to serve its upstairs companion pub ChurchKey. The dual-venue crowd is a D.C. catch-all: young and old, suits and T-shirts, hipster and politico. D.C.'s old and new worlds are co-existing? It's nice to see someone in Washington getting along.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Ben Live plays at the Black Cat on 14th Street. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

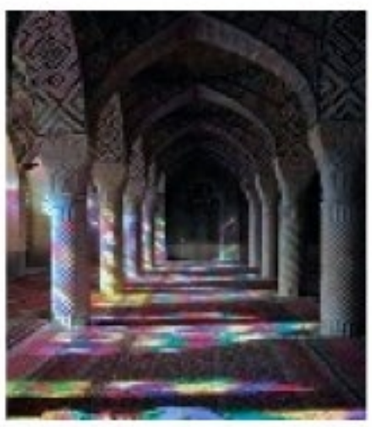
Five happening summer destinations

As well as beating the crowds and bypassing the pitfalls of mass tourism, visitors holidaying in up-and-coming destinations can also enjoy lower prices. Hot on the heels of Croatia — Europe's "exotic" destination some 15 years ago — here are five alternative hotspots for holidaying off the beaten track. AFP

ALL PHOTOS ISTOCK

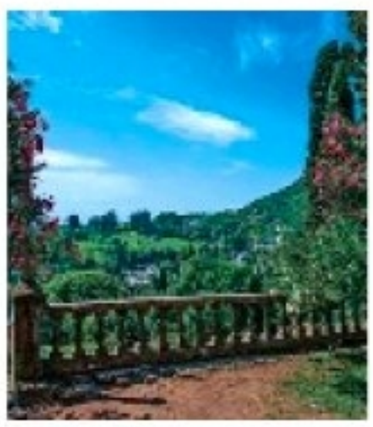
1 Bulgaria

Like Croatia used to be years ago, Bulgaria is the latest up-and-coming destination in Eastern Europe. Tourists can still enjoy low prices with a bit of savvy planning. A flight to the capital, Sofia, shouldn't break the bank, especially since budget airlines now operate routes from some European cities. The country offers postcard-perfect landscapes for holidaymakers thanks to Black Sea beaches and a patchwork of typical Balkan villages and temperatures of around 27 C.



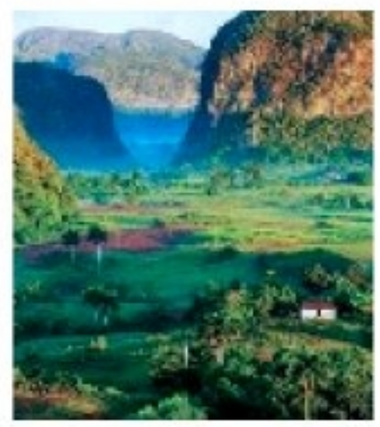
2 Iran

International relations with Iran have warmed since last year's signing of a nuclear deal. Major airlines are reopening routes to Tehran and international hotel groups are returning as tourists head back to Iran. Persepolis is a must for anyone with an interest in history, and budding photographers will love the dazzling coloured mosaics of the Nasir al-Mulk mosque in Chiraz.



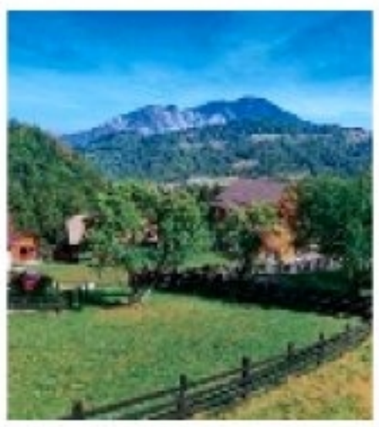
3 Abkhazia

The Black Sea is a seriously hot destination in the travel world right now. On its eastern shore, Abkhazia awaits tourists curious to discover this little-known region between the Caucasus Mountains and the Black Sea. Abkhazia will please travellers with a taste for nature thanks to its many mountains and caves, including Krubera Cave, the deepest known on Earth.



4 Cuba

Catch a glimpse of the famous Cuban cars, take a peaceful dip in the crystal-clear waters of Maria La Gorda, or wander through Havana's picturesque old town before American tourists begin being able to arrive en masse, thanks to a thaw in U.S. relations. Make the most of the many salsa and rumba dance classes and local "casa particular" home stays.



5 Transylvania

Situated in the centre-west of Romania, Transylvania is a new alternative destination for nature-lovers thanks to its lush, green surroundings and natural border with the Carpathian mountain range. Transylvanian architecture and landscapes give a distinctly Game of Thrones slant to the surroundings, scattered with baroque-style villages like Cluj-Napoca.

TRAVEL NOTES

Graceland hits 20 millionth paid visitor

Elvis Presley Enterprises says CEO Jack Soden greeted the 20 millionth visitor, 31-year-old Tiffany Greenoak, at Graceland on Monday morning. Greenoak, who's originally from Montreal, and now lives in London, was on her honeymoon with her husband, 40-year-old Robert Greenoak. Elvis Presley lived at Graceland for 20 years before he died on Aug. 16, 1977. Tours of Graceland began on June 7, 1982.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

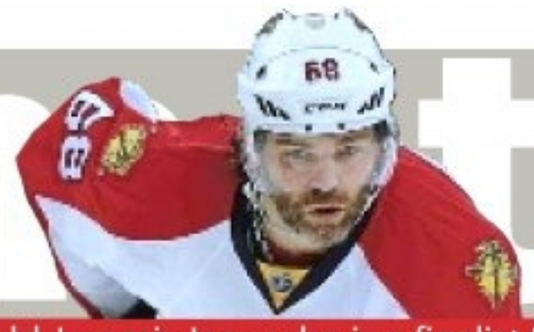
Surgeon makes Rhode Island ad

An oral surgeon made a Rhode Island tourism ad and paid for it to air on television following the botched rollout of the state's own tourism campaign that featured an image of Iceland. A tourism video that Rhode Island released in March was quickly pulled after being mocked for showing footage of a Reykjavik concert hall. Cranston surgeon Stephen Skoly said he saw the state's mistake and thought, "We could do a lot better." Skoly, who owns a production company, created his own 30-second video featuring local footage with the tagline, Sea Rhode Island. He said it cost about $575 to make and $3,000 to air locally on CNN and elsewhere. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Japan wants foreign tourists to avoid 'public flatulence'

A Japanese tourism board has called on foreign tourists to refrain from public "belching or flatulence" in an etiquette guide which was hastily rewritten, reportedly after complaints from a Chinese resident. Originally entitled Common Sense When Travelling in Hokkaido — the guide upset a Chinese resident who angrily claimed the diagrams featuring examples of bad tourist behaviour were offensive, Japan's Kyodo news agency reported. The complaint prompted a new, foreigner-friendly version with softer explanations of Japanese customs. AFP

ntr SPORTS



44-year-old Jaromir Jagr, who is a finalist for the Bill Masterton Memorial Trophy, has agreed to a one-year contract to return to the Panthers

Coaching merry-go-round 'spinning out of control'

NHL

Four teams including Flames without a head coach

Bob Hartley watched bosses come and go three times as coach of the Calgary Flames. He will need one more general manager to believe in him to stay in the NHL.

Fired Tuesday by the Flames, Hartley is itching to get back at it and he's not alone. The Anaheim Ducks' last two coaches, Bruce Boudreau and Randy Carlyle, are also in the mix for current vacancies. "Right now, the coaching carousel is spinning out of control," Hartley said. "It's the time of the year. So obviously there's lots of jobs, there's lots of names and there's going to be lots of speculations."

The Flames, Ducks, Minnesota Wild and Ottawa Senators all have openings. All four teams have different expectations for next season and beyond, and different requirements for their next head coach.

Anaheim is perhaps in the middle of its Stanley Cup window after winning four consecutive Pacific Division titles but failing to reach the final under Boudreau. GM Bob Murray dismissed Boudreau, citing "the way" the Ducks have been eliminated. A team with star forwards Ryan Getzlaf and Corey Perry, a bright young blue line and goaltender John Gibson is an attractive destination. Winning in the playoffs is the expectation.

Paul MacLean, who coached the Senators to two playoff appearances during three-plus seasons in Ottawa, was on Boudreau's staff this season, and former Edmonton Oilers coach Dallas Eakins took the American Hockey League's Toronto Marlies to the Calder Cup final in 2012. Then there's Carlyle, who won the Cup with the Ducks in 2007 and has been out of work since the Maple Leafs fired him in January 2015.

Minnesota has also made the playoffs four years in a row and is looking for more. GM Chuck Fletcher fired coach Mike Yeo and replaced him in February with interim John Torchetti, who is a candidate after a first-round exit. Fletcher flew to California, reportedly to meet with Boudreau, and is looking for a strong hockey person behind the bench. In some places, just consistently making the playoffs is the standard.

Calgary, meanwhile, needs a coach who will improve its special teams. Hartley, who won the Jack Adams Award as coach of the year last season, knows his power-play and penalty-killing units weren't good enough, but he sees the potential of forwards Sean Monahan and Johnny Gaudreau, and knows his successor will have success.

Like the Flames, the Senators made the playoffs against long odds in 2014-15 and fell backward in the standings this year, costing Dave Cameron his job. NHL head-coaching experience is a prerequisite, so Boudreau, Hartley, Yeo, Carlyle, Kevin Dineen, Marc Crawford and Guy Boucher are all legitimate candidates. Senators owner Eugene Melnyk said on Toronto's AM-590 that the team was down to its last couple of interviews. "It's gone well," Melnyk said.

"There's some great talent (available)." Hartley, Boudreau and MacLean have all been named coach of the year, Carlyle and Crawford have each won the Cup, and Dineen helped the Chicago Blackhawks win it as an assistant. THE CANADIAN PRESS WITH FILES FROM ASSOCIATED PRESS

Former Calgary Flames head coach Bob Hartley was one of the casualties as four NHL coaches lost jobs at the end of the regular season. JANA CHYTILOVA/FREESTYLE PHOTOGRAPHY/GETTY IMAGES

> **"It's the time of year. So obviously there's lots of jobs and there's going to be lots of speculation.**
> Bob Hartley

NHL

Finalists named for coach of year

Florida's Gerard Gallant, Dallas's Lindy Ruff and Washington's Barry Trotz were named the three finalists for the Jack Adams Award on Thursday, given to the NHL's best head coach.

Gallant led the Panthers (47-26-9, 103 points) to the Atlantic Division title and franchise records for wins and points in a season, besting their previous marks of 43 wins and 98 points established in 1999-00. Florida established several other team marks this season, including longest overall winning streak (12: Dec. 15 to Jan. 10) and longest home winning streak (7: Dec. 10 to Jan. 3).

Ruff directed the Stars (50-23-9, 109 points) to the Central Division and Western Conference titles and second place in the overall standings. The team was an NHL-best 28-8-3 by New Year's Day and went on to capture its first division title since 2005-06, first conference crown since 2002-03 and reach the 50-win milestone for the first time since 2006-07.

Trotz guided the Capitals (56-18-8, 120 points) to the Presidents' Trophy as the NHL's top regular-season club, setting franchise records for total wins and road wins (27). Their 120 points and 29 home wins were just one shy of club records.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

FORT MCMURRAY WILDFIRES

Alberta sport giants donate to Red Cross

Alberta's professional sports teams are contributing to relief efforts after raging wildfires forced the evacuation of tens of thousands of people from the city of Fort McMurray and other northern municipalities.

The NHL's Edmonton Oilers and Calgary Flames have each donated $100,000 to the Canadian Red Cross and have encouraged fans to make contributions. The league later announced it would also be donating $100,000 to the relief organization.

"The National Hockey League family stands with all who have been affected by the devastating fires in Fort McMurray," NHL commissioner Gary Bettman said in a statement. "We send thoughts of support and encouragement to our neighbors as they confront this disaster."

Meanwhile, the Edmonton Eskimos are spearheading a CFL initiative that includes a combined $50,000 donation to the Red Cross from all nine teams.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

DeMarre Carroll celebrates leveling the series.
THE CANADIAN PRESS

NBA PLAYOFFS

Raptors tie up series with Heat

Kyle Lowry bounced back into all-star form to lift the Toronto Raptors to a 96-92 overtime victory over the Miami Heat on Thursday, evening their second-round playoff series at one win apiece.

Lowry had 18 points, including two clutch baskets in the final minute of regulation, just two nights after what had to be one of the worst games of his career. DeMarre Carroll scored 21 points, Jonas Valanciunas had 15 points and 12 rebounds, DeMar DeRozan chipped in with 20 points, and Terrence Ross added 10. The Raptors roared out to a 14-point lead, and looked poised to romp to a relatively easy victory over Miami, but the Heat had all the momentum in a weak third quarter for Toronto and took a 65-63 lead into the fourth.

GAME 2 In Toronto

RAPTORS	HEAT
96	92

Luol Deng capped an 8-0 Heat run with a three-pointer to give Miami a seven-point lead with six minutes to play. But the Raptors clawed their way back over a thrilling final few minutes of regulation, and a long jump shot by Lowry with 45 seconds left gave Toronto a four-point lead.

After Wade drilled a three-pointer, Lowry fired back with a basket, but Dragic, who played the second half with eight stitches in his lip, sunk a heartbreaking three with 10.5 seconds left to send the game into overtime tied 86-86. Toronto dominated in OT, virtually the reverse of Tuesday's game, to seal victory.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

SHOOTING

Kiejko headed to Rio

Lynda Kiejko will follow in her family's footsteps at this summer's Rio Olympics.

The 35-year-old from Calgary will make her Summer Games debut as she was named to Canada's shooting team Thursday along with three-time Olympian Cynthia Meyer.

Kiejko has shooting in her genes. Her late father Bill Hare competed in the 1964, '68 and '72 Games while her sister Dorothy Ludwig competed in London four years ago.

"Competing in the Olympic Games has been more than a childhood dream for me, it's a family affair," said Kiejko, a double gold medallist at last summer's Pan American Games in Toronto.

Meyer will compete in women's trap shooting while Kiejko will shoot in the 10-metre and 25-metre pistol events.

Meyer's best Olympic result came at the 2000 Sydney Games, where she finished fifth in double trap. The 50-year-old from Bowen Island, B.C., hasn't been to the Games since 2004 in Athens.

"It feels like my first as it has been 12 years since my last Games," she said in a release.

The women earned their spots at the 2016 ISSF World Cup and Olympic test event held in Rio earlier this year. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Lynda Kiejko CONTRIBUTED

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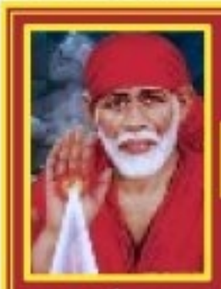

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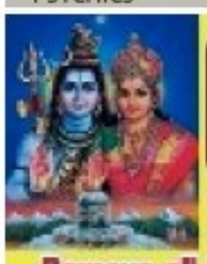

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LAND FOR SALE

ADDITIONAL LANDS FOR SALE BY OFFER ESTATE OF J. C. ANDERSON

The Estate of J. C. Anderson is opening the following lands within the MD of Foothills for offers:

I. THE SECTION 8 LANDS
NW, NE and SW quarters of 8;22;1;W5M
Three Adjacent Quarters close to the City of Calgary
to be sold individually or together

Parcel A - NW ¼, 159 Acres (+/-) and includes a 1,000 ft2 (+/-) house with detached double garage. Includes cultivated fields that were seeded for hay. Exceptional mountain views.

Parcel B - NE ¼ 156.53 Acres (+/-) and includes a 7,960 ft2 (+/-) house with attached 4 car garage, 5 bedrooms, 5.5 baths, games room, wine rooms and office. Beautiful southwest patio with elevated panoramic mountain views. Also has a 6,000 ft2 (+/-) heated & insulated machine shop, a 2,240 ft2 (+/-) heated & insulated Quonset hut and an outdoor tennis court.

Parcel C - SW ¼ 153.84 Acres (+/-) mainly pasture land with exceptional mountain views.

II. THE RIVER RANCH LANDS
West 1/2 of 30;20;1;W5M and Acreage at 0514212;1;2
(located within NW ¼ of 30;20;1;W5M)

Parcel A - West ½ 302 Acres (+/-) located directly on the Sheep River, with a 1,020 ft2 (+/-) cabin constructed in 2012 with wood burning fireplace, 2 bedrooms, 2 baths, plus loft. Also includes a 1,200 ft2 (+/-) heated & insulated machine shop, a 4,500 ft2 (+/-) heated & insulated calving barn, plus other older out buildings, sheds & hay barn. Panoramic views overlooking Sheep River Valley, foothills & mountains, with natural springs throughout. **The offer package will include a gravel assessment report.**

Parcel B - 5.04 Acres (+/-) located within the NW ¼ of 30;20;1;W5M and includes 1,440 ft2 (+/-) house, with detached 832 ft2 (+/-) double garage, 4 bedrooms, 3 baths, and fully developed basement. Panoramic views overlooking Sheep River Valley, foothills & mountains.

Anyone interested in submitting an offer to purchase any or all of the lands described above should contact Lexy R. Wong as set out below to obtain an offer package which will contain additional information about the lands and the terms and conditions which the Estate may consider when reviewing the offers.

All offers shall be submitted in writing in the form provided in the offer package and delivered no later than 12:00 p.m. MST (noon) on June 20, 2016 to the following:

Lexy R. Wong, Bennett Jones LLP Calgary
4500 Bankers Hall East, 855 - 2nd Street SW, Calgary, AB, T2P 4K7
P: 403 298 3079 | E: WongL@bennettjones.com

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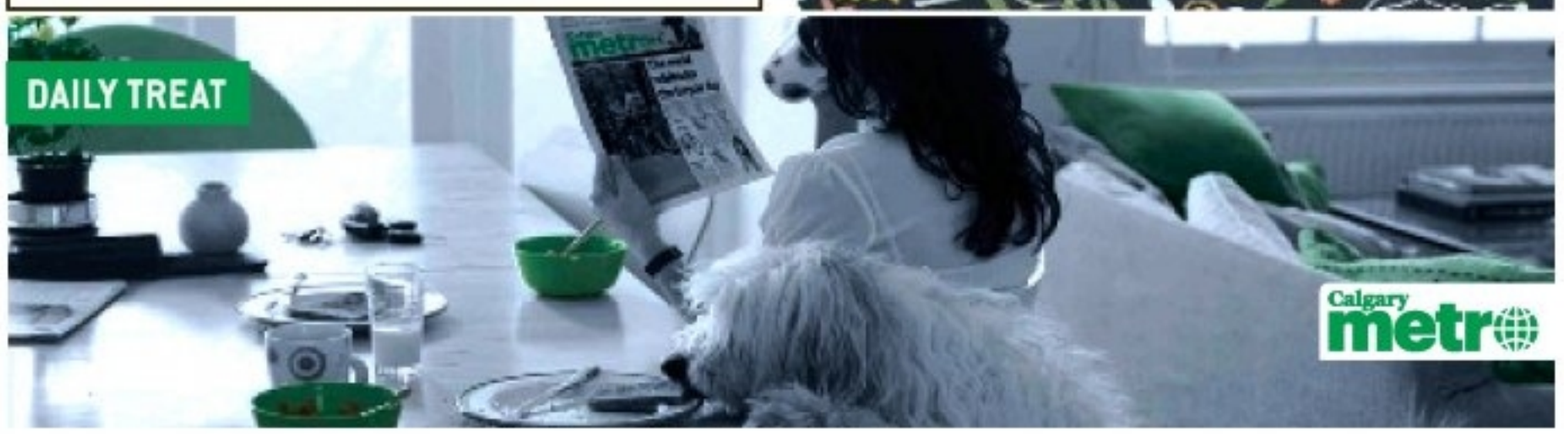


RECIPE Oat and Banana Pancakes

PHOTO: MAYA VISNYEI

Ceri Marsh & Laura Keogh
For Metro Canada

You're not thinking about letting the Mom in your life make breakfast on Sunday, are you?

Ready in
Prep time: 5 minutes
Cook time: 15 minutes

Ingredients
- 1 cup old fashioned oats
- 1 cup spelt flour
- 1/4 brown sugar
- 1/2 tsp baking soda
- 1 1/2 tsp baking powder
- 1/2 tsp ground cinnamon
- 2 eggs
- 3/4 cup milk
- 3/4 cup plain Greek-style yogurt
- 1/2 tsp vanilla extract
- 2 ripe bananas, mashed
- 1/2 cup dark chocolate chips
- 4 Tbsp butter

Directions

1. In a large mixing bowl, combine oats, flour sugar, baking soda, baking powder and cinnamon.

2. In a separate bowl, whisk eggs, milk, yogurt and vanilla. Combine yogurt mixture with dry ingredients and then fold in bananas.

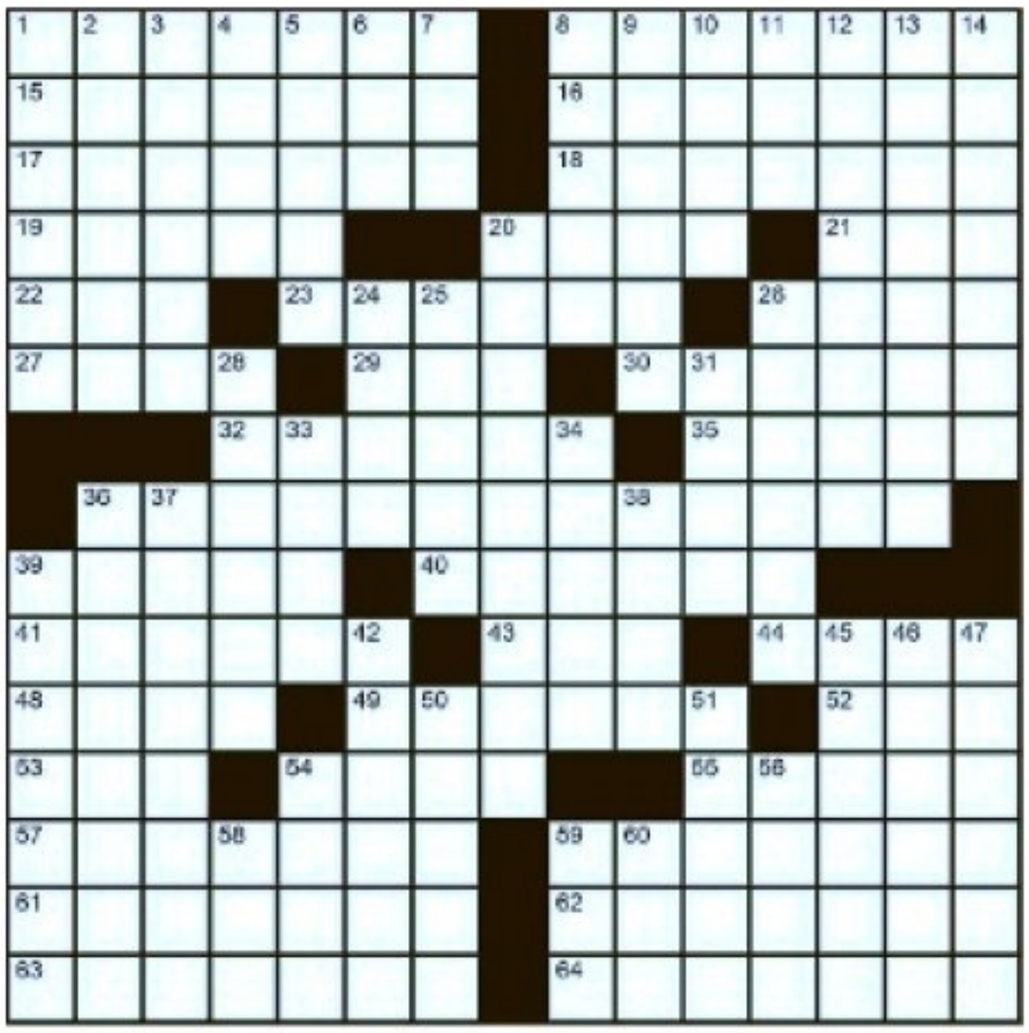
3. Heat 1 tablespoon of butter in a large skillet over medium heat. Use a 1/4 cup measure to pour batter in your hot pan, leaving some space between pancakes in the skillet. Cook pancakes until bubbles appear on top and the underside is golden brown then flip and cook another 1 to 2 minutes. Add another tablespoon of butter to pan between batches and work until batter is finished.

4. Serve with warm maple syrup, agave or honey.

FOR MORE MEAL IDEAS, VISIT SWEETPOTATOCHRONICLES.COM

CROSSWORD Canada Across and Down

BY KELLY ANN BUCHANAN



ACROSS
1. Clearly expresses
8. Minstrel musicians
15. Mosque tower
16. Up the proverbial creek: 3 wds.
17. Autocratically
18. Potassium __
19. Handle
20. Advantages
21. Music style
22. Eliminate
23. Canucks (note the 's'), as opposed to Canuck
26. Assist
27. Acknowledged
29. Hot season in Montreal
30. "The Partridge Family" character played by Susan Dey
32. Biblical book/prophet
35. Canadian Politics: Nicknames of the Liberals
36. Famous event Canadian racehorse Northern Dancer won in 1964: 2 wds.
39. __ sock (Do darning)
40. Celine's "The Prayer" duettist
41. Pre-born social insect: 2 wds.
43. Canadian rapper, JD __
44. Disapproving sound
48. Munchies/treats, advertising-style
49. English class assignments
52. Comprehend
53. X
54. Captivating animal attractions
55. Fashion: __ couture
57. Port city in North Africa on the Mediterranean
59. Became full from the buffet
61. "Circle in the Sand" by __ Carlisle
62. Fixed the suit jacket in a way
63. Tonsil's pal
64. Wine storage rooms

DOWN
1. Set sail
2. Bow's instrument
3. Not outdoors
4. Spaceflight gr.
5. Crunchy
6. Snake-like splasher
7. Pen
8. The Balance
9. Get the newly-purchased rug ready for use
10. New Mexico art colony
11. Doctrine
12. Bible: Eve was created from one: 2 wds.
13. Wholeness
14. Grassy expanses on plains
20. As per #36-Across... The other big thoroughbred horse race Northern Dancer won in 1964, __ Stakes
24. French for 'the water'
25. Mohawk Valley city in New York
26. "Whoopee!"
28. Glass cleaning brand
31. Pulitzer-winning writer James
33. Male deer
34. Mythological multi-headed monster
36. Put the dogs in a boarding shelter, States-style
37. Mire
38. Sturdy horse cart
39. Flat-roofed tomb of ancient Egypt
42. Lieutenant Commander __ La Forge ('Star Trek' universe character)
45. The Night of the __ (Tennessee Williams play)
46. Jet-__ (World traveller)
47. War horses
50. "What a pity.": 2 wds.
51. Beach trinket
54. __ of Elea (Ancient Greek philosopher)
56. Seed coat
58. "Am __ your way?"
59. Legendary monster
60. Peace sign's spelled-out shape

IT'S ALL IN THE STARS Your daily horoscope by Francis Drake

Aries March 21 - April 20
Today is the best day of the year to take stock of what you own. Do your wealth and assets make your life easier? After all, that's the objective, isn't it?

Taurus April 21 - May 21
Take a realistic look in the mirror today to see how you can make a better impression on your world. (This is the best day of the year to do this.)

Gemini May 22 - June 21
For one more month, you must be patient with partners and close friends. After that, these relationships will be far less demanding.

Cancer June 22 - July 23
Friendships are important, whether you are an extrovert or an introvert. Actually, your friends are a reflection of who you are. Think about this today.

Leo July 24 - Aug. 23
Today's New Moon is the best day all year to observe your style of relating to authority figures — bosses, parents and VIPs. Are you gracious or competitive?

Virgo Aug. 24 - Sept. 23
What further education or training will help to improve your job? What travel might you do to enrich your life?

Libra Sept. 24 - Oct. 23
You will have greater peace of mind if you work to reduce your debt. This is the perfect day to think about how to do this.

Scorpio Oct. 24 - Nov. 22
Scrutinize your partnerships and closest friendships today, because this is the best day of the year to do this. (That's because today is the only New Moon opposite your sign all year.)

Sagittarius Nov. 23 - Dec. 21
What can you do to improve your job or the way that you do your job? The whole point of efficiency is to make things easier for you.

Capricorn Dec. 22 - Jan. 20
"No pain, no gain" is a Capricorn belief. But in truth, we all need to play every day! Do you balance play with work? Think about this today.

Aquarius Jan. 21 - Feb. 19
Think of several ways that you might improve your home, as well as your relationships with family members. Today's New Moon is the best day of the year to think about this.

Pisces
Feb. 20 - March 20
It's important to be as clear as you can in all your communications with others. Observe your style of communicating. Do you really listen to others, or do you just wait for a chance to speak?

CONCEPTIS SUDOKU by Dave Green

Every row, column and box contains 1-9

		1				2		
			3		8			
8				4				6
	1		2		5		9	
		6		3		5		
	3		8		1		2	
5				9				8
			5		2			
		4				9		

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WHEN GOD LEADS

God does not lead everybody but those that belong to and are called by Him. That is why the bible says, "My sheep listen to my voice; I know them, and they follow me." (John 10: 27). If you want to be led by God and prosper in your life endeavor, the starting point is to establish a relationship with Him by accepting Jesus as your Lord and Saviour.

For prayers and counseling call the pastor at 587.579.0454

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YESTERDAY'S ANSWERS

Your daily crossword and Sudoku answers from the play page.

for more fun and games go to metronews.ca/games

8	2	9	5	7	4	6	1	3
5	1	3	6	2	8	4	7	9
6	4	7	9	1	3	5	8	2
9	3	4	1	8	2	7	6	5
1	5	2	3	6	7	8	9	4
7	8	6	4	9	5	3	2	1
2	6	5	8	3	1	9	4	7
4	9	1	7	5	6	2	3	8
3	7	8	2	4	9	1	5	6

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(KIA OWNERS SAVE $500!)
$12,730
OR PAY ONLY
$43/WK
$0 DOWN @ 3.99% 84 MONTHS

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(LESS $1,000)
CASH PRICE
$24,140
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OR PAY ONLY
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K56001

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(LESS $3,500)
CASH PRICE
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OR PAY ONLY
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$0 DOWN @ 2.69% 84 MONTHS

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